

The

# KINGBIRD

New York State  
Ornithological  
Association, Inc.  
Vol. 72 No. 4  
December 2022



**THE KINGBIRD** (ISSN 0023-1606), published quarterly (March, June, September, December), is a peer-reviewed publication of the New York State Ornithological Association, Inc., which has been organized to further the study of bird life and to disseminate knowledge thereof, to educate the public in the need for conserving natural resources, and to document the ornithology of the state and maintain the official *Checklist of the Birds of New York State*.

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# The KINGBIRD

PUBLICATION OF THE NEW YORK STATE ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 72 No. 4

December 2022

pp. 321-416

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Front Cover – Eastern Kingbird, Heckscher State Park, *Suffolk*, 6 Jun 2022, © Vincent Glasser.

Back Cover – Eastern Kingbirds, Heckscher State Park, *Suffolk*, 2 Jul 2022, © Lisa Nasta.

Due to publications delays, the December 2022 issue is appearing in 2023.

## THE RUFFED GROUSE ON LONG ISLAND: EXTANT OR EXTIRPATED?

John L. Turner

19 Main Street, Setauket, NY 11733  
redknot948@gmail.com

“Everybody knows that the autumn landscape in the north woods is the land, plus a red maple, plus a ruffed grouse. In terms of conventional physics, the grouse represents only a millionth of either the mass or energy of an acre. Yet, subtract the grouse and the whole thing is dead....”

Aldo Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac*

It was early May of 1991 and I was leading a hike for 25 people for the Long Island Pine Barrens Society. Our destination was the Dwarf Pine Plains, a globally rare forest of pygmy pitch pines located in Westhampton, New York, in the eastern reaches of the 110,000 acre Long Island Pine Barrens. Picking the northwestern section of the Plains for the trip, I decided to come in from the west on a trail known as Middle Line Highway, from what I understood to be an old survey road established many decades before.

We had made it halfway to our destination, in the transition area between the “normal” tree-sized pitch pine forests typical of the Pine Barrens and the Dwarf Pine Plains, when I first heard it—a male Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) drumming to the north. To the group’s delight the Ruffed Grouse drummed several more times before becoming silent. I wasn’t surprised by the drumming bird, having flushed a grouse on a trail just a little northeast of where we currently were a year before. I had no way of knowing it, of course, but this unique muffled drumming sound, carried to our collective ears through the Pine Barrens understory, was to be my last experience with the species on Long Island. This, despite scores of hikes in the intervening years through the Pine Barrens and other parks and preserves on the South Fork and other forested places on Long Island.

In pre-colonial Long Island the Ruffed Grouse was undoubtedly a common bird. One of the earlier references is in J. P. Giraud, Jr.’s *The Birds of Long Island* (1844), where he notes: “On Long Island it is quite plentiful, inhabiting generally the middle portion of the island, particularly the chain of hills known as the “Spine,” which, from its formation, is best adapted to its habits.” Presumably, the spine the author is referring to is the Ronkonkoma Moraine which runs lengthwise through the middle of Long Island from Lake Success to Montauk Point.

Roy Latham, the great Long Island naturalist from Orient summarized the species’ status in the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries in *The Ruffed Grouse on Eastern Long Island* (Engelhardt 1972):

The Ruffed Grouse, *Bonasa umbellus*, was scattered over most of the eastern half of Long Island in 1900 and common in certain sections. In 1870, the Ruffed Grouse was common on the North Fork east to Mill Creek, between Southold and Greenport. The Ruffed Grouse was in the Moores Woods area of Greenport during the Civil War period. Moores Woods was an attractive area for grouse, and they ranged eastward from there through the north woods of East Marion to Dam Pond. There are no known records for Orient. Three Ruffed Grouse were shot on Nichols Point, Shelter Island, during the winter of 1897. The last Shelter Island record I noted was one on Mashomack Point in October 1905. The Ruffed Grouse was not uncommon north of Calverton in the 1920's. On 28 May 1923, I saw a nest there alongside a pine branch partially buried in sand and dry leaves. Grouse were frequent east to Aquebogue in 1900.

In my notes of 1925, I wrote that the easternmost record of the Ruffed Grouse in "recent years" on the North Fork was in the swamp on the south side of Deep Pond, Laurel, on 29 September 1912. In my notes for 1929, I recorded that the Ruffed Grouse was uncommon in the Northwest Woods and in the pine, shrub-oak country from East Hampton to Fresh Pond, Montauk. I also noted the following: 26 June 1927, a single bird Baiting Hollow; 9 June 1928, pair seen in an old wagon trail in thick woods, Hands Creek, Three Mile Harbor; 7 April 1929, one flushed on the old Indian village site one mile west of Sag Harbor, Noyack; 16 June 1929, grouse with a brood of eight young in an old sandy cart path, Pine Neck; 9 July 1929, old bird seen with two young, North Sea.

E. H. Eaton, in *The Birds of New York* (1910), doesn't make specific reference to Long Island when discussing the species' status and distribution in the state, generally noting: "The Ruffed grouse was formerly common in every county of New York from Staten Island to Mt. Marcy but is now rare in the more thickly settled districts, and is probably extirpated from Richmond, New York, and Kings counties." He adds: "In the wooded portions of the State, grouse are much more abundant than in the settled areas, but even there they are most often found about the burnt tracts or recently lumbered districts, where there is both an abundant cover and a more plentiful supply of berries, tender plant shoots and insects than in the depths of the forest." And concludes: "In settled districts they are rapidly becoming uncommon, as their native coverts disappear, and are now found principally in the wooded swamps, gullies and hill slopes."

Early evidence of the bird's declining status on Long Island is hinted at in Griscom's *Birds of the New York City Region* (1923), in which he states the Ruffed Grouse is "Now an uncommon local resident" recorded in Mastic and in Laurel on the North Fork.

Cruickshank (1942), in his *Birds Around New York City*, noted that "On Long Island it is nowhere a common bird, but individuals are annually reported from the Montauk peninsula, the Riverhead region west to the Carmans River and occasionally as far west as Northport, Deer Park, and Belmont Lake State Park."

John Bull, in his *Birds of the New York Area* (1964) noted that "The Ruffed Grouse is an inhabitant of forest clearings and cut-over tracts of extensive second-growth woodland. It is equally at home on the mountainous ridges of northwestern

New Jersey and in the pine-oak barrens of eastern Long Island.” Bull followed this up in his *Birds of New York State* (1974), similarly observing: “It is equally at home in the higher Adirondack and Catskill mountains, and also at sea level in the pine-oak barrens on Long Island.”

In the “Marine-Region 10” chapter of Susan Drennan’s *Where to Find Birds in New York State* (1981), she states that Connetquot River State Park contains “...the only significant population of Ruffed Grouse on Long Island...” In 2022, this statement is interesting on two fronts—1) there have been no reported sightings from this site for several decades; and 2) it is difficult to believe that this state park was unique at that time in possessing the only significant population, given the much greater extent of undeveloped woodlands to the east, from which subsequent sightings have occurred, including several located in the Pine Barrens.

Still, Drennan’s statement about the state park being significant for Ruffed Grouse is bolstered by comments from Bob Giffen, who was the Trout Hatchery Foreman from 1966 to 1973 when the property was the Southside Sportsmen’s Club prior to its acquisition by the state. He provided the following comment to the author in a recent personal communication:

*Great to hear from you! There were only native populations of Ruffed Grouse at Connetquot River. They were rarely hunted in my time there. I ran into them often when I was in the right habitat. I did hear them drumming and on several occasions ran into a mom bird playing the broken wing act and saw the baby grouse. Boy did they blend in, it was difficult to see them even if I knew I was looking right at them. I hope this helps....Good Luck....”*

Regarding the distribution of Ruffed Grouse, S. W. Eaton and K. C. Parkes write in *Bull’s Birds of New York State* (1998): “Found in forested areas of the state from pine-oak on eastern LI to timberline on Mt. Marcy.” Parkes notes that “Bailey (1941) described a subspecies *helmei* based on a series of 40 old specimens from Miller Place, Suffolk Co. The native Ruffed Grouse of LI are rumored to have suffered near or total extinction, but grouse from other populations have been introduced from time to time.” He goes on to say: “Specimens examined by Parkes strongly suggest that *helmei* was not a LI endemic but also inhabited the Hudson Valley, between the highlands on either side.”

The two state breeding bird atlases offer interesting and more detailed data as to the status of Ruffed Grouse on Long Island. In the first New York State Breeding Bird Atlas (1980-1985) the Ruffed Grouse was reported from 25 blocks on Long Island, 22 of which were from the wide expanses of the central Pine Barrens. Breeding was confirmed in nine of the blocks, eight of which were located in the Pine Barrens. Twenty years later, however, in the 2000-2005 Breeding Bird Atlas, the Ruffed Grouse had experienced a precipitous decline on Long Island with only one block reporting the species. This block, too, is in the central Pine Barrens in what appears to be the eastern section of the Manorville

Hills, a 12,000-acre contiguous pine-oak forest situated on the Ronkonkoma Moraine.

The decline of Ruffed Grouse on Long Island, evidenced by the second breeding bird atlas (Post 1998), is mirrored in other parts of the state. The species was detected in 2,579 census blocks compared with 3,152 blocks in the first atlas, a decline of 18%. The lower Hudson River Valley stands out as one example, where it was detected in several dozen fewer census blocks in the second atlas than in the first atlas. Declining Ruffed Grouse populations have been observed in several other states.

*Kingbird* Region 10 Editor Shai Mitra (2004) drew explicit attention to the challenges facing Ruffed Grouse, as well as other ground-nesting forest birds, on Long Island:

*Concerns were voiced again for many species of woodland breeding birds on LI. Species as diverse as Ruffed Grouse, Broad-winged Hawk, Whip-Poor-Will, Veery, Black-and-white Warbler and Ovenbird share many ecological attributes: their populations depend on woodlands of at least modest size and integrity; they are being reported from fewer and fewer sites on LI; and their remaining LI populations are probably undervalued in conservation planning. Indeed, given the plethora of environmental concerns on LI and the extent to which Regional priority falls to maritime-nesting species, it seems difficult to muster much will to preserve our surviving patches of mesic deciduous woodlands, such as those in East Hampton's Northwest Woods. Admittedly, LI's second-growth woodlands are smaller, less diverse and less critical to most species' statewide and global status than are the extensive woodlands upstate, but this rationale undervalues their Regional significance. It is disheartening to think that many once widespread and numerous woodland breeders will probably survive on LI only in a few small relict preserves, if at all. Critical analysis of the just-completed Breeding Bird Atlas will lend quantitative insight into geographical trends for these species on LI. In the meantime, the qualitative prognosis, based on perceptions of LI's most experienced naturalists, is not encouraging.*

Wildlife managers took notice of the decline. Because of the growing scarcity of the species, and the recognition that the population could not be sustained in heavily populated areas as long as hunting continued, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) closed the hunting season for Ruffed Grouse on Long Island in December of 1998. Ruffed Grouse are still hunted in other regions of the state.

In an effort to develop a more complete picture on the status and trend of the species here over the past several decades the author reached out through the statewide Cornell University's Birding Listserv to birders/naturalists to gain their observations and sightings of Ruffed Grouse on Long Island. Numerous responses were provided; some are included below:

1) Larry Penny: *"Have only seen 5 in 41 years here. I saw a pair near the north end of old Northwest Road in the spring of ca. 1990. The last I saw was in Montauk on the parkway near the entrance to the radar site in the state park there in the early years of this century. In all my 75 years of living on both Forks I've seen 5, never on the North Fork. Never heard one drumming."*

2) Steve Biasetti: *"This is an easy question to answer, as I only have two records for the species on Long Island:*

*7/23/95 (Maple Swamp, East Quogue/Flanders) - I flushed a few ruffed grouse from the huckleberry shrub layer while hiking on the Paumanok Path between the south end of Pleasure Drive and the north end of Spinny Road.*

*6/8/01 (Bald Hill Wetlands near Suffolk Community College) - While walking along the trail a short distance north/west of County Road 51, I was surprised by a hen ruffed grouse as it tried to distract me from at least one peeping chick."*

3) Hugh McGuiness: *My last record on LI was from Hunter's Garden. I can't remember the year, but it may be the May 5, 1992 record I have on ebird.*

Author's Note: The account Hugh mentions was a Spring 1992 Region 10 account in *The Kingbird* (42 (3): 203): *male heard drumming at Hunter's Garden, Eastport 5 May (HMG).*

4) Byron Young: *I am not sure if this will be of any assistance to you. My last, first and only observation of a ruffed grouse on Long Island occurred around 1976 on S. River Road in Riverhead. The bird was in the middle of the road and definitely was a ruffed grouse. I keep hoping to find another ruffed grouse along this stretch of road but to date no such luck. I am not aware of any recent observations. At that point in time I was still learning about Long Island and was not keeping records of my birding observations.*

5) Mike Wasilco: *I know they were already quite rare when I began working for DEC on Long Island in 2001. I did manage to see one, once, along Hotwater Street near Toppings Path (Eastport area) in probably 2002 or 2003. I only heard of one or two other sightings since. I left Long Island in 2006, so not sure what may have been seen since then.*

*It will take a bit of digging for me to try to find the exact date of the sighting. I do know it was during the January deer season though, which is why I was driving along those roads.*

6) Robert Paxton: *I can comment on Ruffed Grouse numbers on Long Island as reflected in the Montauk Point Christmas Bird Count, of which I was a participant between 1967 and 2011 and a co-compiler from 1974 to 1993. The count began in 1920, and has been conducted continuously since then, except for a few gaps mostly (maybe entirely) during World War II. There were five reports of single Ruffed Grouse over the years: in 1958, several times in the 1970s, and*



the last one on December 20, 1980. I am reasonably certain that there have been no further reports since 1980.

I have forwarded your message to the present compiler, Angus Wilson, in case he is aware of a more recent record, but I doubt it.

Our five reports came mostly from the vicinity of Fresh Pond, in Hither Hills State Park, and once from Gardiner's Island. There was never more than one bird at a time. This Christmas Count was not very thorough in the early years; I suspect that Ruffed Grouse were regular on the east end before the 1950s. On the basis of the results of the Montauk Christmas Bird Count, I would say that Ruffed Grouse have been extirpated from that area of eastern Long Island since 1980.

7) Bob Adamo:

5/14/79 - 2 birds, Yaphank Woods, Yaphank.

4/08/81 - Bird yes, no further info.

12/19/81 - Bird yes, no further info.

5/06/91 - Riverhead, possibly Red Creek Area, Flanders.

5/05/09 - Field, near woods, close to Radar Tower, opposite Calverton Grasslands, n/s Route 25, T/o/R.

4/30/11 - Rocky Point RCA Property, with Tom Moran.

Information on the status of the Ruffed Grouse is contained in many past regional compilations of *The Kingbird*. There are a total of 884 accounts for the Ruffed Grouse in *Kingbird* archives. Some of them, relating to Region 10 reports, are included here. Particularly informative are records from Gil Raynor, a well-known birder, naturalist and scientist who worked at the Brookhaven National Laboratory and lived in Manorville. These illustrate a definite decline over the period 1963-1974.

Fall 1963: "Quite common this year at Manorville and Upton" (GR); "Population on L.I. appears to be up this year" (IA). (KB 14 (1): 61)

Winter 1963-64: "apparently a high point of cycle. Seen frequently at Manorville and Upton; max 12 together, Dec 22, Manorville and five, Jan 6, Upton" (GR). (KB 14 (2):123)

1965: "Apparently down somewhat from peak of last two years but many observations of one to seven at Manorville and Upton thru season" (GR). (KB 16 (1): 61)

Winter 1973-1974: "GS Raynor reports low numbers on central LI." (KB 24 (3): 165)

Other accounts from *Kingbird* Region 10 reports include:

1967: six, Dec 26 CCCC (Central Suffolk Christmas Bird Count: KB 18 (2): 116-117)

Summer 1981: *Ruffed Grouse were still in low numbers in Central Suffolk, but broods were found in East Manorville 24 June and Manorville 28 June.* (KB 31 (4): 266)

December 1982: *Two Ruffed Grouse were found on the C. Suffolk count, normal for this area.* (KB 33 (2): 146)

December 1983: *Two Ruffed Grouse were found on the C. Suffolk count, normal for this area.* (KB 34 (2): 141)

1990: *BNL 5 May (James Osterlund)* (Brookhaven National Laboratory: KB 40 (3): 206)

1991: *along Rt 104, Quogue 6 May (BA, JR)* (KB 41 (3): 220)

1993: *one Brookhaven National Laboratory 1 Jul (JR)* (KB 43 (4): 351)

These illustrate how detections had become few and far between by the 1990s. The last reference in a *Kingbird* Region 10 report that might imply that the authors were not surprised was Schiff and Wollin's simple, "Some reports Suff." for Summer 1995 (KB 45 (4): 331). It would be another decade before the last reports trickled across the pages of S. S. Mitra's Region 10 reports, conveyed with increasing concern and urgency regarding the importance of documentation:

*Flanders 20 May 2007 (J. Kuhlman); details desired as species has not been documented on LI in several years.* (KB 57 (3): 278)

This same record was mentioned again in the next issue, along with the following commentary from Mitra, who, over more than a quarter century of field work in Suffolk County, has never seen the species:

*Veteran observers have suspected for years now that Ruffed Grouse has been extirpated from Long Island. A belated report from East Quogue on 20 May [2007] is intriguing, but reached us without details. Given the significance that a proven record would hold, observers are encouraged to collect as much documentation as possible and to consider all possibilities, including young turkeys (which can fly when still very small), female pheasants, and the bewildering variety of exotic gamebirds that are encountered at large from time to time.* (KB 57 (4): 352)

*A Ruffed Grouse flushed by hunters in the central eastern LI pine barrens [18 Jan 2008] adds to a handful of credible reports of this once common species, now nearly extirpated from LI. A detailed description or photo verifying the continued existence of this species in our Region would be most welcome.* (KB 58 (2): 202)

*reported Calverton, SUFF 5 May [2009] (BA); photos or full details of any record would be greatly appreciated.* (KB 59 (3): 298)

Sadly, not only has the long-sought verification not emerged, but the reports themselves have ceased entirely, for more than a decade now.

E. H. Eaton, who expressed concern about the future of the species in New York State as long ago as 1910, during an earlier period of scarcity, noted:

*If the Ruffed Grouse is to be preserved in the more thickly populated districts the sportsman must abandon hunting it in these localities, and reserves of several thousands of acres with suitable food and cover should be established in various localities to serve as strongholds and propagating centers for the species. The Ruffed Grouse is our finest game bird and it will be a disgrace if it be allowed to go the way of the Heath hen and Wild turkey.*

Due to the NYSDEC closing the season on “thickly populated” Long Island two decades ago, hunting has been “abandoned” and through the passage of the 1993 Pine Barrens Protection Act “reserves of several thousands of acres exist.” (The Core Preservation Area consisting of various types of wetland and upland forests, fields, and other natural communities alone is nearly 55,000 acres in size. The adjacent Compatible Growth Area which contains some development provides approximately another 50,000 acres). Thus, the two main concerns expressed by Eaton have been heeded but it appears to be a case of “too little too late”, although perhaps focusing on the grouse’s decline in abundance in the Pine Barrens misses the main point of the story. It may be that the Pine Barrens was never the preferred habitat for the species and it became the species’ ‘stronghold’ on Long Island by default.

Why the decline and likely extirpation of the Ruffed Grouse from Long Island? A definitive explanation may not be possible, as extirpation of species from a region is often not clearcut but rather a complicated story, often involving a number of interrelated factors. Still, it is reasonable to assume that habitat loss (through both development and vegetational succession) and fragmentation was a leading cause, as the species struggled to survive in increasingly unsuitable, compromised, and hostile habitat. Besides the direct impacts to habitat from development, the Ruffed Grouse being a ground nesting species brings additional risk as pet and feral cats and suburban friendly wildlife such as opossums and raccoons proliferate in and adjacent to development. The pressures facing Ruffed Grouse here are similar, as are their declines, to those facing the species in other parts of the state as well as throughout much of the Northeast.

Their continued presence in various tracts of land here on Long Island might yet be documented. Use of remote recording stations placed throughout the Pine Barrens and other parks and preserves, set to record during the breeding season when male grouse are drumming, might be helpful. Another approach might be to utilize birders to conduct Ruffed Grouse drumming surveys, employing methods and protocols currently used by NYSDEC throughout the state; these surveys take place in early May.

It has been more than a decade since the last Ruffed Grouse has been sighted by a birder knowledgeable of its field marks, and much longer still since a

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specimen or photo has been obtained. This complete absence of sightings or records across intensively and extensively birded Long Island strongly suggests that we very likely have already lost the Ruffed Grouse as part of Long Island's avifauna. As scientists are known to say, it is "impossible to prove a negative"; i.e., in the case of the Ruffed Grouse to definitively prove it no longer exists on Long Island since the "absence of its evidence does not mean evidence of its absence". Still, the Heath Hen (the Atlantic Coast subspecies of Greater Prairie Chicken, *Tympanuchus cupido*) was extirpated by the middle of the Nineteenth Century, and now, nearly two centuries later, the evidence suggests that the Ruffed Grouse has met the same fate.

If true, both Leopold and Eaton would have been quite displeased with this "disgraceful" outcome.

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# FIRST NESTING RECORD OF GREAT BLUE HERON IN DENSELY URBANIZED NEW YORK COUNTY, NY

Shannon R. Curley<sup>1,2</sup>, José R. Ramírez-Garofalo<sup>3</sup>, Tod Winston<sup>1</sup>, Michael Feller<sup>4</sup>, Beryl Perron-Feller<sup>5</sup>, Daniel Chi<sup>6</sup>, John Carter<sup>7</sup>,  
and Dustin Partridge<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>New York City Audubon Society, New York, NY 10100

<sup>2</sup>Biology Department, The College of Staten Island,  
City University of New York, Staten Island, NY 10314

<sup>3</sup>Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources,  
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

<sup>4</sup>Queens, NY 11351

<sup>5</sup>Brooklyn, NY 11225

<sup>6</sup>Wild Bird Fund, New York, NY 10024

<sup>7</sup>BoatRideNYC, New York, NY 10006

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) is a large wading bird species found throughout North America. Typically colonial nesters, they aggregate in rookeries during the breeding season, though single nests are not uncommon (Vennesland and Butler 2020). Great Blue Herons prefer to nest in remote areas with minimal human disturbance (Vennesland and Butler 2020). Overharvesting and habitat loss during the late-1800s and early-1900s led to steep population declines throughout their North American range. However, since the 1960s this species has experienced a steady population increase throughout much of their range.

Great Blue Herons currently breed throughout most of New York State, though only sporadically in the New York City area—here taken to comprise of Bronx, New York, Kings, Queens, and Richmond Counties; and Nassau and Suffolk Counties (i.e., *The Kingbird's* Marine Region 10). The lack of firm establishment as a breeder in the New York City area is presumably because of the limited availability of undisturbed nesting locations, and no breeders were detected here on the first New York State Breeding Bird Atlas (1980–1985; Andrlé and Carroll 1988), nor on the second New York State Breeding Bird Atlas (2000–2005; McGowan and Corwin 2008). Single pairs were confirmed on Goose Island, Bronx County in 2011 and 2012; and Clove Lakes Park, Richmond County from 2013–2019 (Buckley *et al.* 2018).

On 20 May 2022, while conducting the annual New York City Audubon Harbor Heron Survey, we observed a pair of Great Blue Herons perched at the top of a Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*) on the approach to Mill Rock (40.780717°N, 73.938305°W). Mill Rock is a small, uninhabited island in the East River maintained by the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation as part of Mill Rock Park. Since the mid-2000s this island has hosted small numbers of breeding Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*), Great Egret (*Ardea alba*), Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) and Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*). The pair flew from the tree upon our arrival on the island, but a nest was soon located by *The Kingbird* 2022 December; 72 (4)

S.C. in a separate Norway maple (Figure 1). The nest was approximately 10m up the tree, and composed of densely compacted medium sized twigs which formed a central disk approximately 1m in diameter. Due to time constraints imposed by the outgoing tide, the nest was not further monitored.



Figure 1. Great Blue Heron nest in Norway maple. Mill Rock Island, *New York*, 20 May 2022, © Mike Feller.

This represents the first confirmed nest of a Great Blue Heron within New York County, NY. Although Great Blue Herons do breed in low densities in the New York City area, their presence within New York County highlights the importance of the East River islands for conservation of colonial wading birds.

We thank Brady Simmons and the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation for providing permitting, logistics, and access to the Mill Rock site.

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## **PATCH BIRDING**

### **FINDING TIME FOR A SMALL CIRCLE OF THE WORLD**

**Jay Rand**  
Southold, NY

Listening to one of the hosts, Alvaro Jaramillo, on the Life List podcast discussing his local patches and his five-mile radius patch piqued my interest. I then decided to set up a few patches of my own on eBird. I've always enjoyed birding my local area because family and work obligations didn't leave me much time for avian pursuits. Since I could usually reserve a few early hours on weekends, birding my local patch meant less time driving and more time birding.

There are several benefits to visiting a local patch. Having birded for years in my county (Suffolk) in New York State, I rarely encounter any new species. I've found that one of the more enjoyable and engaging alternatives to focusing on chasing year birds, or trying to find a new county bird, is to spend time in my local patch, observing nesting birds and confirming their breeding activity, and to monitor the behavior of adults and juveniles throughout the breeding season. For example, I have witnessed Great Horned owlets flapping their wings to attempt liftoff; a female Baltimore Oriole diving into a tent caterpillar nest to gather caterpillars to feed her young; and a recently fledged Virginia Rail chick darting across a small pool in the salt marsh.

To set up my five-mile radius patch (5MR), I searched "draw circle radius map" on Google and used one of the free programs to find what birding spots fell within the circle. I live on the Bayview Peninsula in Southold on the North Fork of Long Island, and to my surprise, I found that there were twenty-eight hotspots in my patch. I'm fortunate to have access to a variety of habitats including a bay, an estuary, freshwater ponds, saltmarshes, and a freshwater marsh within the patch.

My local preserve, Wolf Preserve, has also provided me with an abundance of great bird experiences. Since the preserve is a quarter mile from my house, it is the hotspot I have visited most frequently through the years. The preserve has been recently renovated with additional trails and improvements made to the existing trails. Through the years, Wolf Preserve has rewarded me with such highlights as a very cooperative Black-billed Cuckoo, locally rare Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, striking Wilson's and Bay-breasted Warblers, Purple Finches and Northern Saw-whet Owls.

Investigating a local patch has its special rewards—the opportunity to discover a bird that is a patch "first," or better still, a county or state "first," or even a lifer. Last year, my sightings in local patches were bountiful. In my Orient patch, I encountered Stilt Sandpipers, a Marbled Godwit, and a Long-billed Dowitcher, extremely rare visitors to the North Fork. An extraordinary discovery in this patch was a Magnificent Frigatebird soaring with Turkey Vultures over

Main Road in the town of Orient. This was a state first for me and one of my most exciting finds. Luckily it held aloft for quite some time in the area and a good number of local birders were able to catch up with it. At another time, while looking for birds and Odonates in my 5MR, I found the holy grail of patch birding—a life bird—this one an Alder Flycatcher. Coincidentally, the following week, I was on a family trip to Delaware County, New York, for the first time, and I discovered that Alder Flycatchers were common in that part of the state.

Patch birding has changed my frame of mind in a positive way. As a younger birder, I would often “chase” sightings of rare birds that were on the Rare Bird Alert hotline or, later, online or emailed to me, and travel long distances to preserves frequented by more skilled birders. I lived for the successful chase. But over time, the excitement of the chase began to wear thin. My feeling of joy at finding a new bird changed to a sense of relief that a trip hadn’t been wasted. On the other hand, if my pursuit of a species had proved to be unsuccessful, my frustration level increased dramatically. By contrast, patch birding has allowed nature to address me. I visit a local preserve with an open mind to enjoy what I find. The satisfaction of discovering a vagrant bird or a locally rare breeder far surpasses the satisfaction of a successful chase of a rare bird. There is an additional reward. By submitting valuable data on eBird, patch birders have the satisfaction of providing detailed information to scientists studying local bird populations.

My patch-birding experience has been liberating. Though I still enjoy the challenge of chasing a new species, I don’t feel upset if I fail. I find solace in the thought that I’ll just have to wait until I find the bird myself in one of my local patches. I feel quite satisfied to have time for a small circle of my world and the species that dwell there. As a patch birder, I have become, in some ways, a steward of places on the North Fork that are important to people and birds.

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON—SUMMER 2022

**Michael F. Cooper**  
mikec02@optonline.net

The summer of 2022 was ushered in by a slightly cooler than average June, followed by a hot and dry July in most Regions. August was again warmer than normal, with precipitation more of a mixed bag.

Several Regions mentioned that they had unimpressive numbers of most waterfowl. Bob Spahn in Region 2 mentioned some Mallard counts of over 100 and low counts of most other puddle ducks. Region 1, however, recorded high numbers for Wood Duck and Ruddy Duck. There were the expected stragglers from the winter season as well as some nice rarities. I think my favorite among the stragglers was the adult male White-winged Scoter swimming around a farm pond in Columbia County in Region 8. An out-of-season Barnacle Goose in



Region 1 was the first record there since 2010. A Black-bellied Whistling-Duck was photographed by a non-birder in Region 2, a first for that area, and several others were present in Region 10, where they are now becoming regular.

Ruffed Grouse seemed to be pretty widespread, with nine Regions reporting them, and the comment from Region 6—"Many broods reported"—sounded a hopeful note. A White-winged Dove was photographed at Jones Beach in Region 10. Both cuckoo species seemed to be present in decent numbers, with Yellow-billed confirmed as a breeder for the first time in Clinton County, Region 7. There was speculation that Common Nighthawk may be hanging on as a breeder in Region 1, but elsewhere in the state Regional reporters considered the birds they were seeing as likely migrants. August produced three different Rufous Hummingbirds, in Regions 4, 8 and 9.

A sometimes-cooperative King Rail spent the summer at a salt marsh in Region 10, where it mated with a Clapper Rail. "Kling" Rails were observed throughout the summer. Sandhill Cranes were found in nine Regions and were found breeding in at least five of those.

There were quite a few nice shorebird records from around the state, but the only genuine rarity reported was a Bar-tailed Godwit at Moriches Inlet in Region 10, this of the subspecies *baueri*, a first for NYS. Half of all state records are from this location. Good shorebird records away from the coast included Marbled Godwits in Regions 1, 5 and 9, where one on 23 August provided a first Regional record. Hudsonian Godwits were found in Regions 2, and 5. Upland Sandpipers put in appearances in at least eight Regions but were only mentioned in a breeding context in Regions 5 and 6.

I'm wondering if there's reason for cautious optimism regarding the non-coastal population of Piping Plover. Successful breeding was recorded in Region 5, where two successful nests were observed, and in Region 6, where a pair produced young for the first time in 50 years. A single at Sodus Point in Region 2 was Wayne County's first record, but even more surprising was a hatch year bird at Piermont Pier, which provided a first record for Region 9. Overall, Region 9 produced quite a nice array of shorebirds during the summer of 2022. Besides the aforementioned Marbled Godwit and Piping Plover, there was a Willet at Piermont Pier and a Western Willet was found among a flock of 11 American Avocets! A Red-necked Phalarope was found by John Haas while kayaking—it provided a second Sullivan County record.

Elsewhere, three American Avocets were recorded in Region 1 and a nice variety of shorebirds was found in Region 5, including a Red-necked Phalarope, a Long-billed Dowitcher, and a flock of 25 American Golden Plovers at Sandy Pond, the only double-digit report for the state.

The Region 7 report provides an interesting summary of the ebb and flow of Bonaparte's Gull numbers over the years, and how similar fluctuations in other species that associate with them follow a similar trend. Region 1 observers reported a tally of 4,000 Ring-billed Gulls on 13 August—an impressive number.

There was only one report each of Arctic and Sandwich Tern, both from Long Island. Caspian Tern reports were quite varied, Region by Region, with good numbers reported in Regions 1 and 9 and low numbers found in Regions 2 and 6. The comments from Regions 1, 2 and 6 reflect counts at breeding colonies. Jeff Bolsinger, in Region 6, speculates that the 12% decline there may be due to avian influenza. Meanwhile, the Common Tern colony at Sandy Pond grew to a Regional record high of 495. A Little Gull there on 26 August was the only report for the state.

The usual mix of wading birds was present in most Regions across the state and included Tricolored Herons in Region 1 and Region 6, the latter providing the first Regional record. A White Ibis on 29 August in Region 9 was an excellent find. A flock of White Ibis near Stony Brook in Region 10 grew to a max of seven birds. A Great White Heron at Piermont Pier added to Region 9's impressive list of rarities for the season. In that same Region, the Neotropical Cormorant from the spring report lingered through the summer, and birders there also turned up an Anhinga in Rockland County!

Wrapping up the water birds, offshore pelagic trips in Region 10 picked up the rare but now expected species, like White-faced Storm-Petrel. More impressive, though, are pelagics seen from shore, and the South Polar Skua at Robert Moses SP was the best of that batch.

Day-flying raptor reports were highlighted by two different Swainson's Hawks a few days apart in Region 2, and an attempted nesting by a pair of Mississippi Kites in a neighborhood in Region 8. Bob Spahn in Region 2 has an interesting discussion about mid-summer and late-summer raptor movements along Braddock Bay. Also interesting was the report of a Snowy Owl on 10 June in Region 1 followed by another which showed up five days and 120 miles away in Region 3. Is it known whether or not this was the same bird?

Region 1 editors pointed out that the presence of Breeding Bird Atlas-hired observers no doubt helped produce high counts for some passerine species. William Kuk in Region 4 also pointed out that a lot of observers are now using the Merlin app to help find and document breeding birds. Palm Warbler was confirmed as a breeder in Clinton County in Region 7, a first county record. Also in Region 7, Prairie Warblers were observed on territories just below the Canadian border. A few additional warbler highlights worth mentioning include Cerulean and Kentucky in Region 4 and Prothonotary in Region 5, while Golden-winged is definitely at the opposite end of that spectrum, "vanishing as a Regional breeder" in Region 1 and "now one of our rarest breeding warblers" in Region 5.

Bicknell's Thrush seems to have been a bit more widely reported than in recent years—is this another effect of the Merlin app or perhaps Atlasers spending more time in appropriate habitat? Adding to the Region 9 Rarity Roundup, a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Dutchess County was a great find. More tantalizing was a Loggerhead Shrike seen at Croton Point in mid-June, with an additional sighting in early August. Was that the same bird, and if so, where was it during those intervening six weeks?

Several Regions mentioned breeding by Red Crossbills, while others pointed out that Pine Siskins were scarce through the season. Comments regarding grassland breeding passerines were mixed, which is probably an improvement over recent years when the outlook was more uniformly dire. July and August Bobolink counts of 200-300 are impressive, but a count of 4650 at Queen Catherine Marsh in Region 3 seems to be on another level! The same Region produced a high count of 50 Eastern Meadowlarks. Grasshopper and Savannah Sparrows are at least holding on in a number of locations, but overall they seem to be continuing their downward trend. Region 1 editors made the interesting observation that Vesper Sparrows are being found in vineyards and orchards. It would be great to see that disappearing species find a new niche to move in to.

Dave Wheeler's Region 5 brief history of Henslow's Sparrow is a great read, as is his recap of recent MOTUS returns of radio-tagged birds. Fascinating stuff. Shai Mitra's comments regarding August records of Myrtle Warbler are likewise interesting. These are birds showing up several hundred miles south of their breeding range six to eight weeks earlier than the bulk of their migrating congeners.

Summer 2022 provided birders with quite a few interesting sightings, including some Regional rarities. But really, there was only one bird that might make the cut as a "Mega" and for that reason, I think the Bird of the Season has to be the Bar-tailed Godwit that spent two weeks parading around on the mudflats at Moriches Inlet, Suffolk County.

As always, thanks for reading and I look forward to seeing what you all find in the upcoming seasons.

Much of the data in the Regional reports is sourced from eBird: eBird Basic Dataset. Version: EBD\_relAug-2022. Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Aug 2022.

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## **REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER**

**Mike Morgante**

6405 Woodberry Court, East Amherst, NY 14051  
morgm@roadrunner.com

**Joel Strong**

1907 Hess Rd, Appleton, NY 14008  
joelstrong78@yahoo.com

June 2022 was mostly dry, continuing a trend from the spring. The mean temperature at the Buffalo weather station was 66.7° F, 0.2° below normal, with 2.87" of precipitation, 0.5" below average and with most of the rainfall in the first

ten days. July was a warm and dry month. The mean temperature was 72.4°, 0.7° above average. Drought conditions continued through July with five consecutive months below normal precipitation. July rainfall was 2.31", 0.92" below average and with most of it falling on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The August average temperature was 72.7°, 2.3° above normal. Rainfall was 2.81", 0.42" below normal.

In the third summer of the New York Breeding Bird Atlas III, we were fortunate to have Atlas-hired technicians in the Southern Tier counties. Alejandra Lewandowski conducted nearly daily atlasing outings, mostly in Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties, while Tim Lenz picked up in a similar role later in the season with a focus on Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties. Besides providing much needed atlas coverage in many underbirded areas, they came up with some high counts from spending hours throughout a priority atlas block on one eBird list. Counts of 16 Veery (Lewandowski in Olean) and 14 Acadian Flycatchers (Lenz in South Valley) show how otherwise less common species can be found when targeting their habitat and covering a lot of ground in a morning.

A review of the less common breeders found reports to be mostly similar to last year. Several Common Nighthawk reports in the City of Jamestown in June and July provide evidence that this locally declining species may still be present as a breeder in the Region. One June report of an individual in Buffalo is consistent with the only other recent location where breeding might be possible. Summer Sandhill Crane reports continue to increase. To my knowledge, the only crane colts found this summer were in the vicinity of Iroquois NWR and not too far away in Batavia, but the scattered reports throughout the Region are likely indicative of increased breeding presence. The only reports of Upland Sandpiper were of migrants; it will be interesting to see if any breeding evidence is found in the remaining two years of the atlas for this declining species. Black Vulture sightings continue year-round in the vicinity of Lewiston along the Niagara River; however, this species remains unconfirmed as a breeder in the Region. Nesting Sharp-shinned Hawks were found along the Lake Ontario Plain at Krull County Park, which is an unusual breeding location away from the Southern Tier.

Red-headed Woodpeckers were mostly confined to the littoral zones along Lakes Erie and Ontario. There were at least two Merlin pairs with young in Buffalo this summer, possibly more, plus confirmed breeding documented along Chautauqua Lake in Bemus Point. The highlands of Allegany SP remain the best location to find Swainson's Thrush during the breeding season, where Kyle Brock reported six in mid-July. Sedge Wren was only found near Iroquois NWR headquarters, with up to four reported following discovery in late May. Red Crossbills were found in all three Southern Tier counties this summer, following reports starting in late winter and through the spring which included breeding evidence.

Grasshopper Sparrows were found in a handful of locations, while Clay-colored Sparrows were only found at Krull County Park, a regular breeding location in recent years. Atlasing efforts turned up a few White-throated Sparrows in the Southern Tier. There were more Vesper Sparrow reports than most recent

summers, and this species is interestingly being found in some vineyards and orchards.

Once again, there were no Golden-winged Warbler reports in June or July, and this species is vanishing as a Regional breeder. It would be worthwhile to conduct focused searches for this species during breeding season in the remaining atlas years and beyond. Kyle Brock photographed a “Lawrence’s” Warbler in Allegany SP. Prothonotary Warbler was found at Tonawanda WMA at a regular location.

As part of a NYSDEC survey, Jacquie Walters reported 330 Caspian Terns and 1,400 Common Terns in Buffalo Harbor on 8 July. Caspian Terns have become annual breeders and the Common Tern numbers remain strong in the area. Additional habitat created for nesting terns, at Tern Island, has been successful. A maximum of 47 Black Terns was reported in early June at Iroquois NWR, where along with the adjacent Tonawanda WMA, the only Regional breeding occurs.

The highlight for summer rarities was undoubtedly the **Barnacle Goose** first reported by non-resident birder Leslie Baker at the Wilson Pier in Niagara County on the first of June. Local birders were not sure what to make of her initial report as there were no details on the observation. Luckily, Willie D’Anna lives nearby and was on the scent and eventually talked to a local photographer who had indeed photographed the goose. Much to everyone’s delight D’Anna sent out an alert at 7:11 that evening that he had relocated the goose and it had no leg bands. There was still plenty of daylight, and many were able to see it that evening. The Barnacle Goose was seen in the area until the 4<sup>th</sup>, offering many delighted birders the opportunity to see and photograph this very endearing celebrity to the Region. The last Barnacle Goose in Region 1 before this one was in 2010. Other waterfowl highlights included a single Brant sighting, a handful of Trumpeter Swan sightings including at their known breeding sites in Iroquois NWR and Tonawanda WMA. There were some nice Wood Duck counts in late July and August. Iroquois NWR and the nearby WMAs produced most of the dabbling reports as well as less common summer reports of Redhead and Ring-necked Duck. Batavia WWTP is a good summer location for ducks and hosted the only summer reports of Lesser Scaup as well as an impressive count of 25 Ruddy Ducks.

Shorebirds put on a nice show as the spring migration waned in June and then before we knew it, they were headed back through for fall migration in July. Highlights included a single American Avocet at the Wilson Pier in Niagara County on 8 August and a trio at Woodlawn Beach SP on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Two American Golden-Plovers in Wilson were the only August reports of this species. Upland Sandpipers were a bit more common in migration this year than in years past, with four reports in August. Brad Carlson found a pair of Marbled Godwits in Wilson while he was out looking for the Barnacle Goose, which is an especially rare shorebird for our Region. There were only three Baird’s Sandpiper reports and two White-rumped Sandpiper reports, most of which came from a dewatered

wetland in the Tonawanda WMA. There were a handful of Short-billed Dowitcher reports, mostly in July. All four Willet reports were from sites along Lake Erie.

Bonaparte's Gulls were reported in June and July and a single bird seen at the Allegheny Reservoir on 4 July represented an unusual location for the date. Joel Strong found a first summer Laughing Gull in Olcott on 8 June and Gale VerHague had an impressive count of 4,000 Ring-billed Gulls at Dunkirk Harbor on 13 August! The only Lesser Black-backed Gull report was also from Dunkirk Harbor on 30 August. Forster's Terns were reported from four locations in July and August at both Lake Erie and Ontario as well as inland on Chautauqua Lake.

Several Least Bitterns were reported throughout the summer and a high count of 106 Great Blue Herons came from Tonawanda WMA. Andrea Heine counted an impressive 218 Great Egrets at Oak Orchard WMA on 27 August. Celeste Morien found and photographed a locally rare Snowy Egret at Point Breeze on 9 June. Another rarity highlight from the summer was a long-staying **Tricolored Heron** found by Michael Adriaansen at Tiff Nature Preserve on 21 August. It briefly disappeared after the first day, but then was refound and remained at the nearby Times Beach NP until the 30<sup>th</sup>. While conducting a rookery survey at Motor Island WMA, Marcus Rosten found an adult Yellow-crowned Night-Heron on 14 June, perhaps representing an individual setting up shop to breed at this active rookery location. Presumably another Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was seen and photographed at Iroquois NWR on 19 June by Dan Curr and the next day by Dennis Gralak. Up to two Glossy Ibises were found by Celeste Morien at Iroquois NWR, likely representing the same two individuals seen at nearby Tonawanda WMA in May. These birds were reported 3-9 June. The two Glossy/White-faced Ibis reported on 8 June from the nearby Tonawanda WMA likely represents the two Glossies discussed above, but a positive ID could not be made as the birds flew into roost from quite some distance from the observer.

Only three Northern Harriers were reported during the June and July breeding season. Kyle Full found and photographed a very late Snowy Owl at Buckhorn Island SP on 10 June. This represents the latest spring record for this species in Region 1, with the previous record being 4 June 2015.

Several late spring migrants snuck in during the first week of June. Notables included a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher reported on 1 June and a late Olive-sided Flycatcher, found on 5 June by Mike Morgante and the late Gerry Rising. The last Gray-cheeked and Swainson's Thrush migrants were reported on 1 and 2 June, respectively, both of which were picked up by Chris Bertola's Nocturnal Flight Call (NFC) station in Orchard Park, Erie County. A single Pine Siskin in Chautauqua County on 2 June was the only report. Bertola also picked up the last spring report of White-crowned Sparrow on 2 June. Geoffrey Garver had a nice find with a Nelson's Sparrow that he photographed at Tiff NP on 1 June. A few late-migrating warblers showed up in June as well, including a Northern Parula (2 June), Blackpoll Warbler (3 June), and a Wilson's Warbler (1 June).

Southbound, fall warblers started making their way through the Region in August, including the only report of Golden-winged Warbler, found by Karl

Schmidt on 26 August in Allegany County. Two rather early Tennessee Warblers were reported on 31 July (Allegany SP) and 2 August (Woodlawn Beach SP), as well as an early Mourning Warbler on 3 August and Northern Parula 22 August, which were both at Woodlawn Beach SP.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Mike Adriaansen, Leslie Baker, Devin Banning, Sue Barth, Frederic Beaudry, Chris Bertola, Kyle Brock, Brad Carlson, Dan Curr, Willie D'Anna, Katelyn Davis, Dean DiTommaso, Thomas Fravel, Kyle Full, Andrew Gaerte (AGa), Geoffrey Garver, Dennis Gralak, Allen Grove (AGr), Andrea Heine (AHe), Charley Horton, Alec Humann (AHu), Josh Kettry, Bernie Kester, Tim Lenz, Alejandra Lewandowski, Uli MacDonald, Phil Mills, Mike Morgante, Celeste Morien, Rebecca Ploeger, Josh Pollock, Betsy Potter, Gerry Rising, Marcus Rosten, Vicki Rothman, Kevin Rybczynski, Karl Schmidt, Shelley Seidman, Debbie Sharon (DeS), Dominic Sherony (DoS), Rob Sielaff, Janice Strandburg (JaS), Joel Strong (JoS), Mike Tetlow, Dennis Thomas, Gale VerHague, Jacquie Walters, Peter Yoerg.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**ACNC** – Audubon Community Nature Center, Jamestown, CHAU; **AISP** – Allegany SP, CATT; **AmSP** – Amherst SP, ERIE; **BeSP** – Beaver I SP, ERIE; **BMAC** – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; **Bond L CP** – Bond L CP, NIAG; **BuffH** – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; **BuSP** – Buckhorn I SP, ERIE; **BWWTP** – Batavia Wastewater Treatment Plant, GENE; **ChauL** – Chautauqua L, CHAU; **DH** – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; **EvSP** – Evangola SP, ERIE; **FNSP** – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; **GHSP** – Golden Hill SP, NIAG; **HBWMA** – Hanging Bog WMA, ALLE; **INWR** – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; **Krull CP** – Krull CP NIAG; **LBSP** – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; **LESP** – Lake Erie SP, CHAU; **NF** – Niagara Falls, NIAG; **NFC** – Nocturnal Flight Call station; **NR** – Niagara R; **OOWMA** – Oak Orchard WMA, GENE/ORLE; **PB** – Point Breeze, ORLE; **PG** – Pointt Gratiot, CHAU; **RWNP** – Reinstein Woods Nature Pres, ERIE; **TBNP** – Times Beach NP, Buffalo, ERIE; **Tiftt NP** – Tiftt Nature Pres, ERIE; **TWMA** – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; **WBSP** – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; **WTSP** – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

**Brant:** NF 8 Jun; only report.

**BARNACLE GOOSE:** Wilson NIAG 1-4 Jun (LB ph!, WD, mob); *see intro*.

**Canada Goose:** max 700 Dayton CATT 21 Jul.

**Mute Swan:** max 16 PB 18 Jun; 8 WTSP 8 Jul.

**Trumpeter Swan:** BWWTP 5 Jun; 4 INWR 26 Jun; max 5 TWMA 18 Aug.

**Wood Duck:** 71 TWMA 24 Jul; max 93

BWWTP 18 Aug; 61 Tiftt NP 26 Aug.

**Blue-winged Teal:** arr 6 Tiftt NP 17 Jul; max 13 OOWMA 31 Aug.

**Northern Shoveler:** max 4, 2 INWR 3 Jun, 27 Aug; not reported from other locations.

**Gadwall:** INWR 10 Jun; max 6 Ellery CHAU 21 Jul; 5 TWMA 26 Jul; 4 Tiftt NP 17 Aug.

**American Wigeon:** 1, 1 TWMA 8 Jun, 14 Aug; 2 INWR 30 Jul; only reports.

**Mallard:** max 349 INWR 3 Jun.

**American Black Duck:** 2 INWR 3 Jun; max 4 Ellery CHAU 3 Jul; max 4 BWWT 31 Aug.

**Northern Pintail:** Clarence ERIE 11 Jun, unusual location; TWMA 27 Jul; only reports.

**Green-winged Teal:** TWMA 30 Jun; arr, max 6 INWR 1 Aug.

**Redhead:** INWR 4 Jun; NF 5 Jul; only reports.

**Ring-necked Duck:** INWR 10 Jun; 2, 1 TWMA 27 Jul, 2, 25 Aug, unusual locations for summer.

**Lesser Scaup:** BWWT 5 Jun, 5 Jul; only reports.

**Common Merganser:** 1 ad, 22 yg Evans ERIE; 35 Mayville CHAU 17 Jul; max 65 Barcelona CHAU 26 Aug.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** 1, 1 Olcott NIAG 8 Jun, 9 Aug; only reports.

**Ruddy Duck:** 17, 25, 5 BWWT 2 Jun, 5 Jul, 18 Aug, monthly max from reg summer location.

**Wild Turkey:** max 19 Shelby ORLE 6 Aug.

**Ruffed Grouse:** max 8 Chautauqua CHAU 2 Aug.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** only six reports of lone birds.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 15 INWR 19 Jun.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** decent showing.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** decent showing.

**Common Nighthawk:** Buffalo ERIE 21 Jun; 1, 4, 2 Jamestown CHAU 28 Jun, 6, 29 Jul; max 18 BeSP 25 Aug (DeS); 3 Como L CP ERIE 25 Aug; 3 Chautauqua CHAU 26 Aug.

**Chimney Swift:** max 60 Amherst ERIE 17 Aug.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** max 12 Charlotte CHAU 16, 20 Aug.

**Virginia Rail:** max 5 ACNC 21 Jun; max 5 INWR 25 Jun; 3 TBNP 17 Jul; 3 BMAC 19 Jul.

**Sora:** ACNC 2 Jun, 1 Jul; Kiantone CHAU 2 Jun; BMAC 17 Aug; only 7 locations reported.

**Common Gallinule:** max 10 INWR 12 Jun; ACNC 1, 29 Jul; max 10 TWMA 8 Jul.

**American Coot:** max 22 INWR 5 Jul.

**Sandhill Crane:** 4 Batavia GENE 20 Jun; 6 TWMA 26 Jun; 2, 1 ACNC 21, 28 Jun; Grove

ALLE 3 Jul (TF); 2 ad, 1 yg INWR 21 Jul; 2 OOWMA 25 Jul; max 9 Oakfield GENE 21 Aug (JK); 3 Poland CHAU 30 Aug (JaS).

**American Avocet:** arr Wilson NIAG 8 Aug (BP, WD, CH); 3 WBSP 9 Aug (SB).

**Black-bellied Plover:** BWWT 5 Jun; last 3 Wilson NIAG 8 Jun (WD); arr Tift NP 3 Aug; 2 Olcott NIAG, 2 Newfane NIAG 23 Aug.

**American Golden-Plover:** arr 2 Wilson NIAG 24 Aug.

**Killdeer:** max 73 Lewiston NIAG 18 Aug.

**Semipalmated Plover:** 2 Amherst ERIE 21 Jun; arr TBNP 17 Jul; 9, 24 TWMA 29 Jul, 2 Aug; max 34 Tift NP 24 Aug.

**Upland Sandpiper:** BuSP 5 Aug (AHu), flyover; NFC Orchard P ERIE 12 Aug (CB); 3 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 19, 20 Aug (DB, KD); Newfane NIAG 23 Aug (JoS, WD); more reports in migration than usual.

**Marbled Godwit:** 2 Wilson NIAG 2 Jun (BC, mob), rare.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** max 10, last 2 BuFH 5, 11 Jun; arr 3 DH 18 Jul; 1, 2 PB 24, 30 Jul; 1, 2 Wilson NIAG 30 Jul, 4 Aug; 5 TBNP 31 Aug.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** Tift NP 11-13 Aug (DD, mob), only report.

**Sanderling:** arr 9 DH 18 Jul; Wilson NIAG 25 Jul; 2 Buffalo NR ERIE 28 Jul; 8 Tift NP 2 Aug; 4 Barcelona CHAU 13 Aug.

**Dunlin:** last 4 INWR 7 Jun.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** arr 1, 1 TWMA 12, 23 Aug; WBSP 27 Aug.

**Least Sandpiper:** 12 BWWT 2 Jun; arr Amherst ERIE 29 Jun; max 300, 144 TWMA 21 Jul, 14 Aug.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** 6, last 1 TWMA 2, 14 Jun.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** arr 3 Porter NIAG 19 Jul; max 13 TWMA 27 Jul.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 250 TWMA 2 Jun (MT, DoS); last 2 Wilson NIAG 20 Jun; arr 8 TWMA 14 Jul.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr BuFH 18 Jul; 2 Porter NIAG 19 Jul; 2, 3 TWMA 25 Jul, 1 Aug; ACNC 29 Jul (DT).

**Wilson's Snipe:** max 7 TWMA 27 Jul.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** max 24 BWWT 5 Jul.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** Wilson NIAG 8 Jun; arr INWR 29 Jun; Amherst ERIE 8 Jul; 8 Tift NP 7 Aug; max 10 INWR 23 Aug.



**Lesser Yellowlegs:** last TWMA 2 Jun; arr 1, 8 Amherst ERIE 5, 25 Jul; max 12, 20 TWMA 29 Jul, 23 Aug.

**Willet:** arr 1, 2 DH 18 Jul, 29 Aug (GV); 4, 1 BufH 21, 29 Aug (PM, AGa).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr 3, 7, max 9 TWMA 16, 24 Jul, 21 Aug; 4 Amherst ERIE 25 Jul.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** 2 Amherst ERIE 23 Jun; Allegheny Res CATT 4 Jul, unusual location for date; max 8 NF 6 Jul; 2 Wilson NIAG 30 Jul.

**Laughing Gull:** Olcott NIAG 8 Jun (JoS ph!), rare.

**Ring-billed Gull:** max 4000 DH 13 Aug.

**Herring Gull:** max 400 DH 13 Aug.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** 3 DH 30 Aug (GV), only report.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 6 WBSP 9 Aug.

**Caspian Tern:** 43 PB 2 Jun; max 330 BufH 8 Jul (JW), DEC survey; 30 TWMA 29 Jul.

**Black Tern:** max 47 INWR 4 Jun (KR, RP); 10 TWMA 3 Jul; Wilson NIAG 7 Aug (WD); BufH 19 Aug (SS).

**Common Tern:** 375 BufH 11 Jun; max 1400 BufH 8 Jul (JW), DEC survey; 47, 164 Wilson NIAG 30 Jul, 2 Aug.

**Forster's Tern:** Olcott NIAG 8 Jun (JoS); DH 21 Jul (JG, KD, DB); BufH 18 Aug; max 2 Chautauqua CHAU 30 Aug.

**Common Loon:** GHSP 12 Jun; Tift NP 25 Jul; BufH 29, 31 Jul, 1 Aug; only reports.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 1200 BufH 8 Jul (JW); max 1800 DH 31 Aug (GV).

**American Bittern:** max 2 TWMA 11 Jun; Tift NP 23 Jul; Concord ERIE 20 Aug.

**Least Bittern:** max 3, 1, 2 TWMA 2 Jun, 3 Jul, 6 Aug; INWR 5 Jul; BuSP 17 Jul; Tift NP 25 Jul; 2 TBNP 21 Aug.

**Great Blue Heron:** 92 Tonawanda NR ERIE 14 Jun; max 106 TWMA.

**Great Egret:** 122 Tonawanda NR ERIE 14 Jun; 45, 66 BWWT 27 Jul, 18 Aug; 146 TWMA 23 Aug; max 218 OOWMA 27 Aug (AHe).

**Snowy Egret:** PB 9 Jun (CM ph!), rare.

**TRICOLORED HERON:** Tift NP 21 Aug (MA, mob); TBNP 23-30 Aug (DD, mob); same bird.

**Green Heron:** max 12 Tift NP 8 Aug.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** max 17 Tift NP 12, 24 Aug.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:** Motor I NR ERIE 14 Jun (MR ph!), looking to breed?; INWR 19, 20 Jun (DC ph!, DG); rare.

**Glossy Ibis:** 1-2 INWR 3-9 Jun (CM, VR, mob); likely same birds from late May.

**Glossy/White-faced Ibis:** 2 TWMA 8 Jun (JoS), conservative ID.

**Black Vulture:** Buffalo ERIE 1 Jun, unusual location; max 1, 5 Lewiston NIAG 7 Jun, 6 Jul; Lockport NIAG 2 Aug (PM); FNSP 23 Aug (WD).

**Turkey Vulture:** max 69 Lewiston NIAG 28 Aug.

**Osprey:** max 6 Franklinville CATT 21 Jun; 5 BeSP 26 Jun, 12 Jul.

**Northern Harrier:** only 3 reports from Jun-Jul.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 2 Krull CP 29 Jun, confirmed breeding, infrequent.

**Cooper's Hawk:** widespread.

**Bald Eagle:** max 10 Krull CP 14 Aug.

**Snowy Owl:** BuSP 10 Jun (KF ph!), late!

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 3 PG 4 Jun; 2 West Seneca ERIE 8 Jun; 2 INWR 28 Jun; max 7, 4 LBSP 4 Jul, 28 Aug; 4, 4 EvSP 6 Jul, 23 Aug; 2 Long Pt SP CHAU 17 Jul; 2 WTSP 25 Jul; max 5 FNSP 23 Aug; 4 LESP 27 Aug.

**American Kestrel:** max 17 Jamestown Airport CHAU 28 Jul (GV).

**Merlin:** ad, 4 yg Buffalo ERIE 30 Jun (PY); 2 ad, 2 yg Buffalo ERIE 30 Jun (UM); ad, 5 yg Buffalo ERIE 8 Jul (PY); 4 Chautauqua CHAU 19 Jul; 2 ad, 2 yg Ellery CHAU 23 Jul; Jamestown CHAU 25 Jul.

**Peregrine Falcon:** max 4 Buffalo ERIE 30 Jun.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** last Hamburg ERIE 5 Jun (MM, GR); arr WTSP 16 Aug; four other Aug reports.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** last Buffalo ERIE 1 Jun; arr Tift NP 10 Aug; five other Aug reports.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** 4 Hamburg ERIE 1 Jun; 9 Fredonia CHAU 4 Jun (KD, DB, JP); 6 Orchard P ERIE 17 Jun; max 14 South Valley

CATT 7 Jul (TL); 7 Chautauqua CHAU 19 Jul (TL); 5 INWR 31 Jul; last 2 Ripley CHAU 19 Aug.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr TBNP 24 Aug.

**American Crow:** max 175 Forestville CHAU 24 Aug.

**Common Raven:** max 9 Cuba ALLE 1 Aug.

**Horned Lark:** max 39 Newfane NIAG 3 Aug.

**Bank Swallow:** 100 Porter NIAG 5 Jun; 60 PB 18 Jun; 125 TWMA 27 Jul; max 300 BWWTP 30 Jul.

**Tree Swallow:** 300, 300 INWR 18 Jul, 27 Aug; max 450 Bethany GENE 20 Aug.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** 52 BuSP 20 Jul (AHu).

**Purple Martin:** 65, 93 BeSP 6 Jun, 25 Jul; max 150 Bethany GENE 18 Jun; 132 BWWTP 9 Jul; 48 Napoli CHAU 9 Jul; 125 Bethany GENE 25 Jul; 60 INWR 1 Aug.

**Barn Swallow:** max 200 INWR 1 Aug.

**Cliff Swallow:** max 100 Tonawanda ERIE 13 Jun; 50 Grand I ERIE 28 Jun; 20 TBNP 3 Jul; 25 NFSP 9 Aug.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** max 17 Forestville CHAU 30 Aug; migrants arriving in Aug.

**Sedge Wren:** 1-4 INWR 1 Jun - 23 Aug (BK, mob); only location reported.

**Veery:** max 16 Olean CATT 10 Jul (AL).

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** last NFC Orchard P ERIE 1 Jun; arr NFC Orchard P ERIE 31 Aug (CB), early.

**Swainson's Thrush:** last NFC Orchard P ERIE 2 Jun; 6 AISP 19 Jul (KB); arr WTSP 10 Aug; max 11, 7 NFC Orchard P ERIE 12, 13 Aug.

**Purple Finch:** max 9 HBWMA 29 Jun.

**Red Crossbill:** Gerry CHAU 15 Jun (GV); 8 Canaseraga ALLE 20 Jun (AL); 7 Almond ALLE 23 Jun (FB, AGr); max 13 Randolph CATT 25 Jun (AL); continued good showing from late winter and spring.

**Pine Siskin:** Gerry CHAU 2 Jun; only report.

**American Goldfinch:** max 80 Knox Farm SP ERIE 23 Jul.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** 2, 3 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 2 Jun, 16 Jul; Attica WYOM 2 Jun; max 3, 4 Sheridan CHAU 3 Jun, 27 Jul; 2

Newfane NIAG 2 Jul; 3, 3, 3 TRWMA 6, 25 Jul, 6 Aug.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** 4, 4, 3 Krull CP 3, 29 Jun, 13 Jul, regular breeding site.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** last NFC Orchard P 2 Jun.

**White-throated Sparrow:** 2 HBWMA 6 Jul; 3, 2 Alfred ALLE 17 Jul, 19 Aug; max 9 Birdsall ALLE 21 Jul, 3 Aug (AL).

**Vesper Sparrow:** Carlton ORLE 4 Jun; Elba ORLE 6 Jun; 2 Yorkshire CATT 20 Jun; 1, 3, 2 Sheridan CHAU 27 Jun, 10 Jul, 14 Aug; 1, 1 Yates ORLE 9 Jul, 2 Aug; Fredonia CHAU 21 Jul; Middlebury WYOM 17 Aug; 2 Dunkirk Airport CHAU 24 Aug; good showing.

**Nelson's Sparrow:** Tift NP 1 Jun (GG ph!), rare.

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** no reports.

**Bobolink:** 30 Yorkshire CATT 14 Jun; 50, 40 Knox Farm SP ERIE 15 Jun, 23 Jul; 33 Charlotte CHAU 17 Jun; 31 Wellsville ALLE 30 Jun; max 59 TWMA 4 Aug; 55 Sheridan CHAU 14 Aug.

**Orchard Oriole:** 2, 3 Bond L CP 2 Jun, 9 Jul; 2 Ripley CHAU 19 Jun; 2 Yorkshire CATT 20 Jun; 2 Sinclairville CHAU 22 Jun; 2 LBSP 28 Jun; 3 Randolph CATT 1 Jul; 3 Wilson NIAG 13 Jul; 3 Pomfret CHAU 31 Jul; last LESP 27 Aug.

**Ovenbird:** arr Tift NP 24 Aug.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** numerous Jun reports; South Valley CATT 7 Jul; Chautauqua CHAU 19 Jul; AISP 21, 31 Jul; Aurora ERIE 23 Jul; last Ripley CHAU 9 Aug.

**Northern Waterthrush:** arr Tift NP 11 Aug.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** Rushford ALLE 26 Aug (KS), only report.

**"Lawrence's" Warbler:** AISP 28 Jul (KB, mob, ph!), rare.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** HBWMA 15 Jun, 1 Jul; Charlotte CHAU 17 Jun; Freedom CATT 18 Jun; Little Valley CATT 25 Jun; Olean CATT 11 Jul; Salamanca CATT 29 Jul; 2 AISP 31 Jul; arr WBSP 2 Aug.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** TWMA 4 Jun (RS); regular location.

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr AISP 31 Jul (TL), early; WBSP 2 Aug (SB), also early.

**Nashville Warbler:** Ashford CATT 5 Jun; Gerry CHAU 6, 28 Jun; 3 Birdsall ALLE 19 Jun; max 4 Charlotte CHAU 29 Jun; Olean

CATT 11 Jul; Wilson NIAG 17 Jul; HBWMA 20 Jun; arr BuSP 20 Aug.

**Mourning Warbler:** max 8 Gerry CHAU 15 Jun (GV); 7 Salamanca CATT 15 Jul (AL); arr WBSP 3 Aug (SB), early.

**American Redstart:** arr NF 1 Aug.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr Tiff NP, Wilson NIAG 12 Aug; max 34 NFC Orchard P ERIE 31 Aug (CB).

**Cerulean Warbler:** 1, 2 AISP 4 Jun, 6 Jul; 2, 3 Newstead ERIE 4 Jun, 3 Jul; max 5, 4, 4 INWR 6, 18 Jun, 24 Jul; 2 TWMA 1 Jul; 2 OOWMA 1 Jul.

**Northern Parula:** last Grand Island ERIE 2 Jun; 4, 5 AISP 4, 12 Jun; 2 Gerry CHAU 17 Jun; Allegheny Res CATT 4 Jul; 1, 2 AISP 7, 14 Jul; HBWMA 14 Jul; arr WBSP 22 Aug, early.

**Magnolia Warbler:** max 8 Canaseraga ALLE 20 Jun; max 8 Ripley CHAU 24 Jun; arr RWNP 10 Aug.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr Tiff NP 12 Aug.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr 2 WBSP 2 Aug.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** last Chautauqua CHAU 3 Jun; arr BeSP 16 Aug.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** max 8 Bush Hill SF ALLE 12 Jun; 7, 3 Salamanca CATT 1 Jun, 15 Jul; 5 AISP 3 Jun; 3 Great Valley CATT 8 Jul; arr 2 Hamburg ERIE 24 Aug.

**Pine Warbler:** arr AmSP 28 Aug.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** arr Evans ERIE 11 Aug.

**Prairie Warbler:** max 5 Yorkshire CATT 8 Jun; 3, 2 Little Valley CATT 10 Jun, 14 Jul; Collins ERIE 2, 23 Jul; Cuba ALLE 6 Jul; arr WBSP 25 Aug.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr RWNP 10 Aug.

**Canada Warbler:** 2 Humphrey CATT 14 Jun; 2 HBWMA 20 Jun; 2 Fredonia CHAU 24 Jun; 3 Great Valley CATT 8 Jul; max 4 Canadaway Creek WMA CHAU 9 Jul; 2 Alfred ALLE 17 Jul; arr WBSP 10 Aug.

**Wilson's Warbler:** last Albion ORLE 1 Jun; arr Krull CP 20 Aug.

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## REGION 2—GENESEE

**Robert Spahn**

716 High Tower Way, Webster, NY 14580

rspahn@prodigy.net

Summer 2022 was pretty much just a typical summer season, with variations well within normal fluctuations in both weather and birding. The season began in June with heavy rains in the first half of the month, then a change to an abnormally dry pattern. By July, we reached a moderate drought level and some crops were showing stunting. August brought relief, with temperatures lower and rains to break the drought. There were no strong thunderstorms other than a line on 28 July that produced a rare EF-2 tornado in Wyoming County over a path about 500 yards wide and 10 miles long. Looking at some statistics, we have June temperatures averaging 67.5° F, 1.5° above normal, and precipitation totaling 2.04", 1.32" below normal. There were seven days above 80° and three days >90°. July saw the temperatures average 72.1°, 0.2° below normal, with two days >90°, but many days in the high 80s with high humidity making it uncomfortable. Precipitation totaled 1.78", 1.78" below normal, with 0.94" of that falling on 18 July. In August, the temperatures averaged 72.5°, 2.0° above normal, and precipitation totaled 3.37", 0.06" above normal. There were only four days >90°, and there was a nine day period mid-month with temperatures below normal.

Looking to birding generally, the monthly species totals were near the 10-year averages and just below the totals in 2021 in July and August. With the cold start in June, the species total was also just below average, but with the cold and fewer rarities, it was 15 species below the 2021 number. Breeding Bird Atlas work did have birders out searching, and the eBird downloads for the Region were good at: June – 49,725 (-3.3%); July – 43,501 (+4.7%); and August – 38,043 (+8.5%), with changes from 2021 in parentheses. Banding at the Braddock Bay Bird Observatory in the last half of August was also off to a good start, with 447 new bands.

Generally, waterfowl species and numbers were poor through the season. Canada Goose and Mute Swan were present in numbers where expected. Trumpeter Swan counts were <10 all season at any location, and there were no reports in June. Among the puddle ducks we had the usual breeding species in low numbers other than a few Mallard counts over 100. American Black Duck was very scarce. A few of the irregular summer lingerers were present, mainly around the barrier beach island at the mouth of Braddock Bay. Early fall migrants included Northern Shoveler, American Wigeon, and Northern Pintail in late August. Diving ducks were missing other than the usual breeding Hooded and Common Mergansers, lingering Greater Scaup and Red-breasted Merganser into June, likely breeding Redhead in the NMWMA (Van Dyne Spoor Rd./Sandhill Crane Unit), and surprise sightings of Ring-necked Duck in June and July and Long-tailed Duck and a Common Goldeneye in July. The lone real rarity was the Region's first **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** photographed on 13 June in the Scottsville area of Monroe County by an anonymous non-birder, *fide* Brad Carlson.

Moving on to the mish-mash of species between waterfowl and shorebirds, we start with a few reports of Ruffed Grouse scattered about in June and July, a species usually way underreported. Among the grebes, as usual there are numbers only for Pied-billed Grebe in this season, mostly from the NMWMA (VDSR), where there are also the usual best counts for Common Gallinule and American Coot. There was a first fall arrival for Red-necked Grebe, with two passing Hamlin Beach SP on 23 August. Yellow-billed Cuckoo was especially well reported in June, Black-billed much less so, with both dropping off through the season. The last Common Nighthawk report was on 10 June, and the first fall return on 15 August, with numbers low. Chimney Swift counts reported were also low except at the well-known York Central School site in Livingston County. Ruby-throated Hummingbird reports were good each month, with a 50% jump in lines in eBird in August as migrants were added. Finally, Sandhill Crane was reported from the known local breeding areas north of Honeoye and in the NMWMA, with a peak count of 15 in NMWMA (VDSR) on 28 August.

Among the shorebirds, higher water and less sand and mud flats at the mouth of Braddock Bay cut numbers from 2021 for June, but water levels dropped later in the season and there were many reports from along the south shore of Lake Ontario and from the NMWMA area (mostly Carncross Road). The usual late

spring migrants produced 13 species into June, none in surprising numbers or to especially late dates. Willet was the only scarcer species for that period. By late June, Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers were logged as fall migrants. Fall migration picked up quickly through July, with 18 species for the month. Stilt Sandpiper on 8 July was early and Upland Sandpiper was found at an expected site at the Geneseo Airfield on 18 July. The species count increased to 27 species in August, with the most interesting: Wayne County's first **Piping Plover** at Sodus Point 21-24 August first found by Tim Lenz; an Upland Sandpiper in the Town of Sodus, Wayne County; multiple Whimbrel, with a maximum of 22 on 16 August; the first Baird's Sandpipers of the year; a good count of 225 Semipalmated Sandpipers on 27 August; both Wilson's and Red-necked Phalaropes reported; and more Willets, with a maximum of five on 6 August.

Moving on to the gulls and terns, numbers were also relatively low for nearly all expected species. Bonaparte's Gull numbers were low throughout, and Lesser Black-backed Gull, reported in most months in recent years, was not recorded until 9 August. Turning again to reports of more interest (at least to me), we find: a first Parasitic Jaeger for the fall passing Hamlin Beach SP on 31 August; Laughing Gulls on 1 June at Braddock Bay, 10 June at Sodus Bay, and 18 August at Braddock Bay; our third spring report of **Least Tern**, with two seen at Braddock Bay-East Spit by Michelle Gianvecchio, Jim Miles, and Lauri Mattle at 10:15 AM on 12 June and then by Mike Gullo at the Ontario Beach/Charlotte Pier area 13 miles east at 11:46 AM; a good Black Tern count of 28 in the NMWMA (VDSR) area on 6 June; and Forster's Tern in all three months at the Braddock Bay-East Spit area and at the Irondequoit Bay Outlet in August. Comparing with historical numbers, Caspian Tern counts were relatively low, with a maximum of only 117 at the Braddock Bay-East Spit on 5 August.

Mopping up the water/marsh bird species, we find the typical few records of Common Loon into June, then only one report in July and four reports in August. There were no reports for Red-throated Loon. The only wandering egret was a Snowy Egret found by Celeste Morien at Point Breeze, Orleans County on 9 June (likely a Region 1/2 border record).

Next, lumping the vultures with raptors, we have a lone Black Vulture report by Dave Tetlow over the Town of Greece on 3 August. With the official Braddock Bay Hawkwatch ending on 31 May, the best of the tail of spring migration caught by volunteers in June was on 16 June, with 140 Turkey Vultures, 47 Bald Eagles, 49 Broad-winged Hawks, 18 Red-tailed Hawks, and a **Swainson's Hawk**. There was another **Swainson's Hawk** noted over Irondequoit by Jennifer Lang on 20 June. In July, Mike Tetlow caught a small hawk flight near Braddock Bay on 11 July highlighted by 33 Bald Eagles. August saw volunteers staff a formal natal-dispersal hawk watch in the Braddock Bay area that tallied 3600 birds over the month. These summer flights are on the same west to east path as the spring flights at that location. The best day was 7 August, with Dave Tetlow noting 29 Bald Eagles, 138 Broad-winged Hawks, and 823 Red-tailed Hawks from the Owl Woods parking lot on the west side of Braddock Bay. Jumping ahead a bit in the

checklist, the three regular falcons were reported in decent numbers each month, with Merlin and Peregrine Falcon reports increasing in August. Merlin nesting was reported for two locations, and the nesting of Peregrine Falcons in downtown Rochester is well summarized on the Rfalconcam.com website.

As usual, the rest of the non-passerine part of the checklist was poorly reported this season other than the resident woodpeckers. Even there, the only noteworthy comments were for Red-headed Woodpecker, with 22 lines in eBird for June, 21 for July, and 24 for August.

As usual, summarizing the large number of species and reports for the passerines is messy and selective. Often a significant amount of spring migration continues well into June, a significant complication for Breeding Bird Atlas work. Braddock Bay Bird Observatory banding operations often extend into June, this year to 5 June. Often, some species see their peak banding days in June. This year numbers were weak for especially the later thrushes and warblers. Only "Traill's" Flycatcher was banded in fair numbers at 12. There were some good later dates, with Yellow-bellied Flycatcher to 10 June, Swainson's Thrush to 14 June, and a record-late Magnolia Warbler to 15 June. Misses from the expected list for this period included: Olive-sided Flycatcher, Philadelphia Vireo, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Lincoln's Sparrow, Cape May Warbler, and Bay-breasted Warbler. On a more positive note, Sedge Wren was found in Burger Park, Town of Greece, Monroe County on 14-28 June, 2 and 31 July, and another in the NMWMA (Morgan Rd.) area 28 July-8 August. There is also note of Fish Crow continuing to expand its presence in the Region both along the lakeshore and south into Rochester and surrounding towns. Interesting mid-summer notes included: swallow counts generally low other than 650 Bank Swallows near the Devil's Nose colony site in Hamlin Beach SP in July and 1500 at NMWMA (VDSR) area in August; a Winter Wren all July in the Five Points area of the Town of Rush in Monroe County; unusual banding dates for Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (record early or ???) and Swainson's Thrush on 23 July and Black-throated Blue Warbler on 24 July; a Black-and-white Warbler on a hiking trail in Hamlin on 4 July; and very few reports for Golden-crowned Kinglet and some of the scarcer breeding warbler species from areas that should have seen substantial Atlas work.

Moving into August, we find all of the expected passerine species reported. We can even toss in a likely escaped species as a bonus, **Budgerigar**, reported on 17 August. **Yellow-headed Blackbird** found by Brad Carlson at Braddock Bay on 1 August was the rarest report. Beyond that we have some interesting counts, with 200 Bobolinks in the NMWMA on 31 August; 490 Cedar Waxwings at Hamlin Beach SP on 29 August; 37 Magnolia Warblers and 28 Bay-breasted Warblers as the peaks for migrants banded; and 37 Common Yellowthroats and 24 American Redstarts as peaks for locally breeding warblers banded. 27 warbler species were reported for the month. Interesting early arrival dates included: Connecticut Warbler on 31 August, Cape May Warbler on 12 August, Magnolia Warbler on 13 August, Black-throated Blue Warbler on 20 August, and Canada Warbler on 21 August.

There are always interesting and fun things in looking through a season's records. Choices lie in what approach individuals take. I still seek feedback on the interests of readers of these reports. Typically, disappointingly, there is NONE! (But it's not quite 50 years yet.)

## CONTRIBUTORS

Zachary Adams, Debbie Alix, Jody Apap, Osvaldo Araya, Ted Barnett, Jessie Barry, Mitchell Barry, BBBO (Andrea Patterson), Doug Beattie, Amaya Bechler, Betty Beckham, Don Bemont, Tom Bemont, Linda Clark Benedict & Steve Benedict, David Benvent, Lynn Bergmeyer, Barry Bermudez, Shawn Billerman, Linda Birkel, Allen Bloom, John Boettcher, Terry Bohling, Lynn Braband, James Brigden, David Brown, Mark Brown, Robert Buckert, Sara Burch, Bruce Cady, Brad Carlson, Nancy Casper, Denis & Judy Caysinger, Robert Cicotta, Roger Clark, Barabara Clise, Kelly Close, Jeremy Collison, Andrew Consler, David Cooney, Carrie Curry, Doug Daniels, Willie D'Anna, Judy Dobles, Stephen Donohue, Gordon Dutter, Diane Egan, George Ford, Katie Ford, Kenny Frisch, Kyle Gage, Andrew Garland, Matthew Gavette, Janis George, Jessica George, Michelle Gianvecchio, Candy Giles, Christopher Goetz, James Goetz, Mackenzie Goldthwait, John Gordinier, Karla Gordinier, Sheryl Gracewski, Jane Graves, Jay Greenberg, Kevin Griffith, Austin Groff, Ralph & Georgia Guenther, Michael Gullo, Carmen Gumina, Andrew Guthrie, Chris Guthrie, Richard Guthrie, Bill Haake, Meena Haribal, Helen & Chris Haller, Greg Hartenstein, Kim Hartquist, Paul Heitmann, Christina Hoh, Dick Horsey, Bill Howe, Linda Howes, Alec Humann, IBA Monitoring, Pam Inzinna, Carolyn Jacobs, Nick Kachala, Amy Kahn, Laura & Paul Kammermeier, Jacob Kearney, Doug Kibbe, Jim Kimball, Cindy Kindle, Kathy Kirsch, Karl Kunze, Michael Laird, Chris Lajewski, Daniel & Jenny Landsman, Jennifer Lang, Greg Lawrence, Gayle Lazoration, Tim Lenz, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Pat Lindsay, Sam Lynch, Peggy Mabb, Liz Magnanti, Melissa Mance-Coniglio, Cindy Marino, Pat Martin, Donna Mason-Spier, Lauri Mattle (LM), Kenneth McCarthy, Jacob McCartney, Bill McConnell, Daniel McDermott, Jay McGowan, Kevin McGowan, Bob McGuire, Ann McMican, Scott & Sophie Meagher, Tim Meester, Steve Melcher, Jim Miles, Mark Miller, Kent Millham, Phil Mills, Randi Minetor, Adrielle Mitchell, Ann Mitchell, Shai Mitra, Mike Morgante, Celeste Morien, Brian & Brooke Morse, Jim Mott, Linda Mott, Leah Mould, Sheila Mumpton, Kevin Murphy, Allen Nash, Ann Nash, Tom Nash, David Odell, Jay Ovsiovitch, Michael Palermo, Gary Palmer, Andrea Patterson, Shelley Patterson, Nickilas Paulson, Jonathan Pierce, Norma Platt, Sandy Podulka, Jo Popma, Jay Powell, Mike Powers, Derek Pulhamus, Bill Purcell, Doug & Elizabeth Rabjohns, RBA Field Trips, Rochester Young Birders Club, Neal Reilly, Rosemary Reilly, Gerry Rising, Michael Rizzo, Susan Roberts, Brian Rohrs, Victoria Rothman, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Robert Ryan, Shawn Ryan, Jennifer Rycenga, Kevin Rybczynski, Jackie Salsbury, Greg Sanda, Livia Santana, Michael Scheibel, Karl Schmidt, Andrew Scott, Shirley Shaw, Dominic

Sherony, Judy Slein, Nicholas Sly, Roger Smith, Tom & Pat Smith, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Rick Stevens, Joseph Stevenson, Wendy Stevenson, Allan Strong, Reuben Stoltzfus, Kim Sucy, June Summers, Holly Sweeney, Stephen Taylor, Mike & Joann Tetlow, Eunice Thein, Mary Jane Thomas, Brian Tuttle, Geoff Twardokus, Nathan Ukens, Alison Van Keuren, Jeanne & Tom Verhulst, Jules Wagner, Brad Walker, Mike Wasilco, Bridget Watts, Kim Weeks, Dave Wheeler, Kory Whittum, Justin Way, Rene Wendell, Joe Wing, Chris Wood, Jim Wood, Martha Zettle, Ryan Zucker. (There were several hundred other observers in the eBird downloads for the three months.)

## ABBREVIATIONS

**b** – after a number of individuals indicates banded; **BB** – Braddock Bay, T Greece, MONR; **BB-ES** – East spit of Braddock Bay; **BB-HW** – Braddock Bay Hawkwatch; **BBBO** – Braddock Bay Bird Observatory, off Manitou Beach Rd, MONR; **CIWMA** – Conesus In WMA, LIVI; **DE** – Durand-Eastman P, Rochester at Lake Ontario; **G** – T Greece, MONR; **H** – T Hamlin, MONR; **HB** – Hamlin Beach SP, MONR; **IBO** – Irondequoit Bay Outlet to Lake Ontario; **IB-S** – LaSalle Landing P and vicinity at S end of Irondequoit Bay; **IB-W** – Irondequoit Bay P West; **LSP** – Letchworth SP; **M** – Manitou, NW side of Manitou Beach Rd, MONR; **MP** – Mendon Ponds P, MONR; **NMWMA (GBM)** – Northern Montezuma WMA, Guy Baldassarre Marsh, WAYN; **NMWMA (SCU)** – Northern Montezuma WMA, Sandhill Crane Unit often interchangeable with the Van Dyne Spoor Rd label; **NMWMA (VDSR)** – Van Dyne Spoor Rd area, WAYN; **PtB** – Point Breeze, ORLE; **SPt** – Sodus Pt, WAYN.

**BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK:** Scottsville, MONR area 13 Jun (anon, ph, *fide* BCar), **1<sup>st</sup> Region 2 record**.

**Mute Swan:** max 65 BB-ES 1 Jun; 63 LaSalle's Landing P, IB-S 27 Jul; 55 LaSalle's Landing P, IB-S 10 Aug; monthly max, relatively low.

**Trumpeter Swan:** max 7 NMWMA (Deep Muck) 7, 10 Jul.

**Wood Duck:** max 41 CIWMA 19 Jul, low count; not even a higher Aug post-breeding count.

**Blue-winged Teal:** only small number scattered about until many reps BB-ES in Aug; max 27 BB-ES 11 Aug (AGu); 14 MAC 4 Aug; remains very scarce in breeding season.

**Northern Shoveler:** arr BB-ES 18 Aug (GLaw), early.

**Gadwall:** 1 IBO 7 Jul; 1-2 BB-ES 2-30 Aug; scarce in summer.

**American Wigeon:** 2 BB-ES 10 Jun; HANA 4-6 Jun; BB-ES 16, 31 Jul; 1-4 BB-ES 3 Aug thru; NMWMA (Morgan Rd) 11 Aug;

NMWMA (VDSR) 20 Aug; Alder Beach (private), Lake Ontario, T Parma, MONR 21 Aug; unusual for loc & dates.

**Mallard:** max 125 BB-ES 18 Aug, low max; only a few counts over 100 for the season.

**American Black Duck:** max 7 NMWMA (Morgan Rd) 1 Aug, very scarce all season.

**Northern Pintail:** arr 3 HB 28 Aug (AGu), early; BB-ES 31 Aug (AGu, KWe), early.

**Green-winged Teal:** 1-2 Genesee Valley Greenway, nr Chandler Rd., LIVI 4-29 Jun; 1-4 BB-ES 24 Jun - 25 Jul; increasing to max 28 BB-ES 24 Aug (GLaw); scattered six other sites in small numbers; unusual loc for dates, usually scarce in summer.

**Redhead:** 1, 2 BB-ES 29, 31 Aug (AGu); sometimes breeds NMWMA (SCU), missing there.

**Ring-necked Duck:** NMWMA (VDSR) 6, 20 Jun (CC, ZA, RW, JP); TCEA 8 Jul (AMc); scarce in summer.

**Greater Scaup:** last 5-15BB 5-15 Jun (MBa, 5 oth obs).



**Long-tailed Duck:** IBO 18; 21 Jul (JiM; KMi, SRo), scarce in summer.

**Common Goldeneye:** BB-ES 2 Jul (JiM, RCL, LBi), rare in summer.

**Common Merganser:** max 20 BB-ES 21 Aug, low max.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** last four Lake Ontario shore sites, MONR & WAYN 6-14 Jun, typical lingerers.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 30 NMWMA (SCU) 11 Jun, typical count for site.

**Red-necked Grebe:** arr 2 HB 23 Aug (AGu), typical early arr, only rep.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** 153 lines in eBird Jun, good numbers; dropping way off later.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** 52 lines in eBird Jun; dropping way off later.

**Common Nighthawk:** last 3 Grand View Hts, G 10 Jun (KGri); arr Fairport Canal Trail 15 Aug (BBer).

**Chimney Swift:** max 45 York Central School, LIVI 9 Aug (JKi), low max; few counts.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** 541 eBird lines many loc Jun; 554 eBird lines many loc Jul; 751 eBird lines many loc Aug; each up slightly from last year.

**Common Gallinule:** max 60 NMWMA (SCU) 23 Jun (Sbi, NS, BWa), ok count.

**American Coot:** max 48 NMWMA (VDSR) 13 Aug (KMU), low max.

**Sandhill Crane:** 3 Allens Hill Rd., T Honeoye, ONTA 23 Jun (LBra), breeding area; BB-ES 27 Jul (JiM, LM), unusual date for loc; max 15 NMWMA (VDSR) 13 Aug (W&MR), low max.

**Black-bellied Plover:** last BB-ES 12 Jun (MGi); arr 4 Spt 2 Aug.

**American Golden-Plover:** arr Jacobs Rd., H 26 Aug.

**Semipalmated Plover:** last 3 BB-ES 14 Jun; arr BB-ES 12 Jul (GLaw); max 30 BB-ES 31 Aug (MGi).

**PIPING PLOVER (R2):** Spt 21-24 Aug (TL, MGU), 1<sup>st</sup> WAYN record.

**Killdeer:** max 144 Marshall Rd, Avon 26 Aug (NK), good count.

**Upland Sandpiper:** arr Geneseo Airfield, LIVI 24 Jul (JKi); Pratt Rd, T Sodus, WAYN 23 Aug (MGU, JWi, W&MR), only reps.

**Whimbrel:** arr BB-ES 18 Jul (JiM); max 22 Spt 16 Aug (W&MR); Spt 19 Aug (JWi); BB-ES 24; 28 Aug (sev obs).

**Ruddy Turnstone:** last Summerville Pier 9 Jun; arr PtB 24 Jul (AGu), early.

**Red Knot:** arr BB-ES 26-27 AUG (BPu, HS, 33 oth obs), only reps.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** arr BB-ES 8 Jul (AGu, JMi), early.

**Sanderling:** last 2 OB 9 Jun; 3 Spt 21 Jun (JWi), spring or fall?; arr 4 BB-ES 14 Jul; 21 BB-ES 18 Jul; max 22 Spt 16 Aug (MGU).

**Dunlin:** last BB-ES 1-10 Jun; arr BB-ES 5-12 Aug.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** arr BB-ES 17 Aug.

**Least Sandpiper:** last PtB 2 Jun; arr BB-ES 26 Jun; max 88 BB-ES 12 Aug (RCi).

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** last BB-ES 14 Jun (MGi); arr BB-ES 5 Aug; max 10 BB-ES 27 Aug (DBen, RRy, RZ).

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** arr BB-ES 15 Jul; max 30 NMWMA (GBM) 14 Aug (TL).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** last BB-ES 19 Jun; arr BB-ES 27 Jun (JiM); 37 BB-ES 23 Jul; max 225 BB-ES 27 Aug (AGU, MGU), good count.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr BB-ES 12 Jul; max 16 BB-ES 28-29 Aug (7 obs).

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** arr BB-ES 30 Jul (AGr), only report.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr 5 BB-ES 7 Jul (MGU).

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr BB-ES 2 Jul (JiM, RCL, LBi); max 21 RR-ES 21 Aug, low max.

**Willet:** last Spt 1 Jun (MGU); BB-ES 4-27 Aug (mob), a bird seen there thru period; max 5 BB-ES 6 Aug (BMc, JPu).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr North Pds P, Webster 2 Jul (KMi).

**Wilson's Phalarope:** BB-ES 4 Aug (JiM), only rep.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** BB-ES 5 Aug (JiM); BB-ES 31 Aug (MGi, mob).

**Parasitic Jaeger:** HB 31 Aug (AGU), dark juv headed east.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** last 4 HB 14 Jun; arr BB 2 Jul (AGU); max 18 OB 15 Jul, low max.

**LAUGHING GULL (R2):** BB-ES 1 Jun (MGi, SG); Spt 10 Jun (TL); BB-ES 18 Aug (GLaw, mob).

**Ring-billed Gull:** 400 Hylan Dr, Henrietta, 11 Jun (NK), nesting again at site.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** arr Summerville Pier 9 Aug; SPt 23 Aug (TL), only reps. (GLaw).

**LEAST TERN:** 2 BB-ES 12 Jun (MGi, JiM, LM, phs), 3<sup>rd</sup> Reg spring record, 10:15 AM; 2 OB 12 Jun (MGu, phs), 13 mi E, same birds, 11:46 AM.

**Caspian Tern:** max 117 BB-ES 5 Aug (KGa), low max.

**Black Tern:** max 28 NMWMA (SCU) 6 Jul (MT, DSh).

**Common Tern:** max 26 HB 31 Aug, low max.

**Forster's Tern:** last BB-ES 1 Jun (MGi, SG, RCI); BB-ES 9-23 Jul (MGi, mob); 1-2 BB-ES 8; 21; 31 Aug.

**Common Loon:** ~20 ind 4 loc thru 25 Jun; BB-ES 8 Jun; Alder Beach, T Parma, MONR (private) 27 Jul, only Jul rep; Conesus L 16 Aug (TBo); BB 1 Aug (BCar); 2; 1 HB 22; 31 Aug (AGu).

**Double-crested Cormorant:** max 770 PtB, ORLE 28 Aug (RB, NK).

**American Bittern:** max 5 NMWMA (SCU) 11 Jun.

**Great Egret:** max 35 HANA 29 Jul (ABI).

**SNOWY EGRET (R2):** PtB 9 Jun (CMO).

**Black Vulture:** G 31 Aug (DT).

**Turkey Vulture:** 140 BB-HW 16 Jun (MT), late spring peak; 63 BB area hawk watch 11 July (MT); 35 BB-HW 23 Aug.

**Northern Goshawk:** no reports.

**Bald Eagle:** 47 BB-HW 16 Jun (MT), late spring peak; 135 lines eBird Jun; 33 BB area hawk watch 11 July (MT); 125 lines eBird Jul; 287 lines eBird Aug; max 29 BB-Owl Woods parking lot, west side 7 Aug (DT), part of natal-dispersal hawk watch.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** total 5 ind 5 loc 18-29 Jun; total 5 ind 4 loc 2; 18; 24; 28 Jul; 2 Dansville, LIVI 3 Aug; 4 BB 7 Aug (DT); Hoffman Rd, Irondequoit 17 Aug (R&SSp).

**Broad-winged Hawk:** 49 BB-HW 16 Jun (MT), late spring peak; 72 HB 6 Jun; max 138 BB-Owl Woods parking lot, west side 7 Aug (DT), part of natal-dispersal hawk watch.

**SWAINSON'S HAWK:** BB-HW 16 Aug (MT, MGU); Cooper & St.Paul Rds, Irondequoit 20 Jun (JLang).

**Red-tailed Hawk:** 18 BB-HW 16 Jun (MT), late spring peak; max 823 BB-Owl Woods

parking lot, west side 7 Aug (DT), part of natal-dispersal hawk watch.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** ~15 ind 9 loc Jun; ~17 ind 10 loc Jul; ~17 ind 10 loc Aug; good showing.

**American Kestrel:** total ~58 ind 51 loc Jun; ~115 ind 67 loc Jul; ~76 ind 41 loc Aug.

**Merlin:** total 9 ind 8 loc Jun; ~7 ind 7 loc Jul; ~34 ind 24 loc Aug.

**Peregrine Falcon:** total ~5 ind 5 loc 2-24 Jun; ~7 ind 7 loc Jul; ~17 ind 15 loc Aug; Rochester nesting: four eggs laid, three hatched, all three fledged 8-9 July – 2 f, 1 m, one female injured to rehab and finally released 25 Aug. See Rfalconcam website for details.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** arr WP 25 Aug (CKi), only rep.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** last 1b BBBO 10 Jun; 1b BBBO 23 Jul, Reg fall RE or ??; arr 1b BBBO 18 Aug; total b 14 BBBO 18-30 Aug.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** last rep 2 North Rose, WAYN 1 Aug (TL).

**"Traill's" Flycatcher:** max b 8 BBBO 1 Jun; total b 12 BBBO 1-5 Jun; total b 6 BBBO 18-30 Aug.

**Least Flycatcher:** 35 lines eBird 26 loc Jun, least reported of breeding flycatchers; total b 6 BBBO 24-31 Aug.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** arr 1b BBBO 26 Aug.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** total b 6 BBBO 1-5 Jun; max 20 Canadice L, ONTA 4 Jul (NK); total b 18 BBBO 17-29 Aug.

**Fish Crow:** ~19 ind 9 loc Jun; max 9 E Main St, Rochester 20 Jun; ~20 ind 13 loc Jul; ~39 ind 9 loc Aug.

**Bank Swallow:** 230 HB 15 Jun; 650 HB 1 Jul (AGu); max 1500 NMWMA (SCU) 5 Aug (AVK).

**Tree Swallow:** max 300 NMWMA (Colvin Marsh) 27 Aug, low max.

**Purple Martin:** max 95 BB-ES 13 Aug (RCI, LBi).

**Barn Swallow:** max 300 NMWMA (Morgan Rd) 10 Aug (MH).

**Cliff Swallow:** max 15 T Byron, GENE 3 Jul (MG, DK).

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** ~21 ind 5 loc Jun; ~8 ind 4 loc Jul; ~18 ind 7 loc Aug; scarce, especially given BBA work.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 490 HB 29 Aug (DT).

**Winter Wren:** ~34 ind 31 loc Jun, good number; ~26 ind 18 loc Jul; Five Pts area, T Rush, MONR most of Jul (MZ), unusual site; arr BB-OW 9 Aug; ~10 ind 8 loc Aug, note drop when not singing and BBA work done.

**SEDGE WREN (R2):** Burger P, G 14-28 Jun - 2 Jul (NU, 14+ oth obs); NMWMA (Morgan Rd) 28 Jul - 8 Aug (CHO, 4+ oth obs); rare in Reg.

**Gray Catbird:** total b 10 BBBO 1-5 Jun; 1183 eBird lines Jul; total b 98 BBBO 15-31 Aug.

**Gray-checked Thrush:** no reports.

**Swainson's Thrush:** 1b 8 BBBO 1 Jun; last WP 14 Jun (CG); 1b BBBO 23 Jul, unusual date; arr 1b BBBO 19 Aug.

**American Robin:** 2102 lines eBird Jun; 1914 lines eBird Jul; 903 lines eBird Aug.

**Pine Siskin:** Jacobs Rd, H 1 Jun; Lake Rd, Webster 3 Jun; HB 1 Jul (AGu); G 12 Jul (RRy); irregular in summer.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** max 4 Nations Rd IBA, LIVI 29 Jun.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** Leceister Rd, T Caledonia, LIVI 18 Jun (MW); Cook Rd, Hamlin Jun (5 obs), 2; 5 Jul (G&KfO; AGu).

**White-crowned Sparrow:** last Burger P, G 1 Jun.

**White-throated Sparrow:** last Nations Rd IBA 3 Jun; Hojack Trail, Webster 6 Jul (AGa), unusual place at date; Rotterdam Rd, T Sodus, WAYN 21 Aug, unusual place at date.

**Song Sparrow:** total b 18 BBBO 16-29 Aug.

**YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD (R2):** 1 imm BB 1 Aug (BCar), by boat.

**Bobolink:** 70 Burger P, G 31 Jul (RB, NK), good count; max 200 NMWMA (GBM) 31 Aug (JiW).

**Orchard Oriole:** max 8 Mumford, GENE 36 Jul (JaG, JBr).

**Baltimore Oriole:** total b 22 BBBO 16-21 Aug.

**Northern Waterthrush:** arr T Gates, MONR & Amy's Pd, WAYN 12 Aug; total b 4 BBBO 16-31 Aug, low.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** Hamlin Walking Trail 4 Jul (AGu), unusual date for place; arr 3 loc 9 Aug.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** 1 NMWMA (Armitage Rd) 3-26 Jun (4 obs).

**Tennessee Warbler:** last Beechwood SP, WAYN 2 Jun; arr Grandview Lane, G 12 Aug (KGri).

**Nashville Warbler:** last Beechwood SP, WAYN 2 Jun; 1b BBBO 28 Jun, unusual date for location; arr Lake Rd, Webster 18 Aug.

**Connecticut Warbler:** arr 1b BBBO 31 Aug.

**Mourning Warbler:** last 2b BBBO 2 Jun; total b 5 BBBO 20-24 Aug.

**Common Yellowthroat:** total b 7 BBBO 1-5 Jun; 893 lines eBird Jun; max 24 T Springwater, ONTA 13 Jul (TBo); 714 lines eBird Jul; total b 36 BBBO 15-31 Aug; 208 lines eBird Aug.

**American Redstart:** total b 9 BBBO 1-2 Jun; max 20 HB-YC 8 Jun; total b 17 BBBO 15-30 Aug.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr Lake Rd, Webster (PMab) & Grandview Lane, G (KGri) 12 Aug.

**Northern Parula:** last Whiting Rd Nature Pres, Webster 5 Jun; 2 Letchworth SP campground 12 Jun (TM); arr 2 HB-WE 28 Aug.

**Magnolia Warbler:** last 1b BBBO 15 Jun, Reg RL spring, MAPS banding; total b 32 BBBO 16-31 Aug, good number b; arr M-OW 13 Aug (JiM), early.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** last 1b BBBO 2 Jun; arr 2 M-OW 9 Aug (JiM); total b 22 BBBO 15-31 Aug.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** arr Ellison Heights, Penfield 9 Aug.

**Yellow Warbler:** 1176 lines eBird Jun; 617 lines eBird Jul; max 60 BB-ES 31 Jul (RB, NK); total b 4 BBBO 17-23 Aug, low number b; 404 lines eBird Aug.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** last Firehouse Woods, G & Cumming NC, ONTA 4 Jun; arr Church Trail, G 27 Aug.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** 1B BBBO 24 Jul, unusual date for location; arr Grandview Lane, G 20 Aug (KGri).

**Prairie Warbler:** Letchworth SP - Mt Morris Dam 20 Jun (NP), still relatively rare breeder; Springwater, ONTA 13 Jul (TBo).

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** arr Sandra L. Frankel NP, Brighton 26 Aug.

**Canada Warbler:** last 1b BBBO 5 Jun;  
Chimney Bluffs, T Huron, WAYN 2 Jul  
(DCo), scarce breeder; arr M-Owl Woods &  
Beechwood SP, WAYN 21 Aug, early.  
**Wilson's Warbler:** last Albion, ORLE 1 Jun  
(DBem); arr 1b BBBO 19 Aug.

**Northern Cardinal:** 1876 lines eBird Jun;  
1989 lines eBird Jul; 1262 lines eBird Aug.

#### EXOTICS

**Budgerigar:** G 17 Aug (JeB, CW), certainly  
an escape.

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## REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

**Bill Ostrander**

80 Westmont Ave., Elmira, NY 14905  
browncreeper9@gmail.com

June was a little cooler and drier than normal. The average low temperature was 51.7° F, 1.4° below normal. The average high temperature was 75.6°, 0.1° below normal. Total precipitation was 3.52", 0.46" less than normal. July's average low temperature was 57.1°, 0.8° below normal, but the average high temperature was 82.8°, 2.9° above normal. The total precipitation was 1.64", 2.36" less than normal. August was warmer and wetter than normal. The average low temperature was 57.5°, 1.2° above normal. The average high was 81.4°, 2.9° above normal. Total rainfall was 4.72", 0.95" more than normal.

Members of several species of waterfowl lingered at the north end of Seneca Lake. These included a White-winged Scoter, a Long-tailed Duck, a Bufflehead, a few Common Goldeneyes, two Red-necked Grebes, and eight Common Loons. Four Red-breasted Mergansers lingered on Cayuga Lake. Waterfowl began gathering in the Region in late August, producing some high summer counts. At Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) were high counts of Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shovelers, Mallards, and Ring-necked Ducks. Also at Montezuma NWR at the end of August was a Eurasian Wigeon.

Observers reported late spring departure dates for several species. Late Dunlins and Semipalmated Sandpiper were at Montezuma NWR. Late White-rumped Sandpipers were at Montezuma NWR and Myers Point. A Pectoral Sandpiper lingered at Leet Road Pond. Red-necked Phalaropes at Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve were late to leave. A Greater Yellowlegs arrived early in mid-July at Montezuma NWR. High counts were reported for Sanderlings at the Elmira Dam and for Spotted and Solitary Sandpipers at Montezuma NWR. The only American Avocet was at Keuka Lake in mid-July and the only Upland Sandpiper report came from the Town of Venice in late July.

A high count of Great Black-backed Gulls was at Stewart Park in mid-August. Reports of single Lesser Black-backed Gulls came from several locations. A Laughing Gull was at One Franklin Square in mid-June.

The two most interesting wading bird reports both came from Montezuma NWR. A high count of Cattle Egrets was there in late June. The season's only report of Glossy Ibis was in late August.

Observers reported high counts for several species of raptors. The high count of Black Vultures was at Sapsucker Woods and of Turkey Vultures at the Stevenson Road Compost Piles. Ospreys were high at Montezuma NWR, Sharp-shinned Hawks in the Town of Canandaigua, Cooper's Hawks at Farley's Point and in the Town of Caroline, Red-shouldered Hawks in the Town of Van Etten, and Peregrine Falcons at Taughannock Falls State Park. The most unusual raptor for the season was a Snowy Owl in the Town of Reading from mid-June through late July.

Observers also reported high counts of several species of woodpeckers and flycatchers. In the Town of Potter were high counts of Red-headed Woodpeckers and Olive-sided Flycatchers. The high count of Red-bellied Woodpeckers came from the Big Flats Trail and of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers from Shindagin Hollow State Forest. Stony Brook State Park produced the high count of Great Crested Flycatchers. A location in the Town of Enfield had a very high count of Eastern Kingbirds in mid-August. Acadian Flycatchers were high at Cayuta Gulf and Alder Flycatchers at Arnot Forest and at Dotson Community Park. A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher in the Town of Dryden in late June was a late spring migrant as was a Philadelphia Vireo in the Town of Starkey in early June.

Some miscellaneous high counts were Blue Jays at Sapsucker Woods, Carolina Wrens at Stewart Park, Bobolinks at Queen Catharine Marsh, and Eastern Meadowlarks in the Town of Pulteney. A maximum count of three Grasshopper Sparrows in the Town of Italy was low. A Swainson's Thrush singing along the Jim Schug Trail in mid-June was a late spring migrant. Unusual observations were a Ruby-crowned Kinglet in the Town of Prattsburg in early August; several Red Crossbill reports; a Pine Siskin in Ithaca and another in the Town of Danby in July; Clay-colored Sparrows in the Town of Lodi and in the Town of Canandaigua; a Yellow-breasted Chat at the Seneca Army Depot; and a Dickcissel in the Town of Seneca.

There were high counts for several species of warblers: Louisiana Waterthrushes at Cayuta Gulf, Common Yellowthroats in the Town of Danby, Hooded Warblers in the Burdett CE Breeding Bird Atlas block, Chestnut-sided Warblers in Danby State Forest, Pine Warblers in Fillmore Glen State Park, Prairie Warblers in Dotson Community Park, Canada Warblers in Shindagin Hollow State Forest, and migrating Wilson's Warblers in Palmer Woods in late August. The only late spring migrant was a Cape May Warbler at the Caswell Road Grasslands. Early fall migrant species were Golden-winged Warbler at the Bishop Preserve, Cape May Warbler at Monkey Run, and Northern Parula at the Durland Preserve.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Tess, Judy Abrams, River Ahlquist, Janet Akin, Anirudh Arun, Jessie Barry, Karen Becker, Betty Beckham, Tom Bemont, David Benvent, Lynn Bergmeyer, Joseph Brin, Tayler Brooks, Bryan Brown, Brian Browne, William Buswell, Davey Cagle, Nina Calabria, John Castronova, Ken Clark, Barbara Clise, Reya Coats, Jon Corcoran, Sandy Covington, Dave Czaplak, Ian Davies, Sam Deane, Lynn Donaldson, William Earley, Anonymous eBirder, Jody Enck, William Evans, Thomas Facchine, Adam Farid, Ash Ferlito, Claire Fisher, John Fitzpatrick, Tom Fredericks, Kyle Gage, John Garrett, Suzanne Giffin, Benjamin Hack, Matty Hack, Ginny Halterman, Cullen Hanks, Meena Haribal, Emily Hart, Michael Haupt, Megan Hausler, James Hawk, Helen Heizyk, Paul Herwood, Tristan Herwood, Steven Herzberg, Jordan Hillsley, Ryan Hillsley, Brian Hofstetter, Bill Howe, Jack Hutchison, Martha Hyde, IBA Monitoring, Archie J, Nancy Jameson, Sree Kandhadai, Kenneth Kempfues, Dave Kennedy, Rachel Kimpton, Renee Kittleman, Jordan Klein, Stuart Krasnoff, Anusha Kundargi, Arrow Z L, Yoon Lee, Tim Lenz, Lukas Levine, Shawn Ligocki, Michelle Lock, Braydon Luikart, Barbara Mansell, Jay McGowan, Kevin McGowan, Tracy McLellan, Rachel Morrison, Diane Morton, Shannon Moyer, Kevin Murphy, Oscar Nigam, Raphaël Nussbaumer, Dave Nutter, Bill Ostrander, Amelia Parseghian, Jonah Perelman, Sandy Podulka, Elliott Ress, Dave Robertson, Bryce Robinson, Bee Rohrs, Ken Rosenberg, David Rymal, Sean Salazar, Greg Sanda, Livia Santana, Michael Scheibel, Tom Schulenberg, Nathan Senner, Tom Shepard, Dominic Sherony, Antony Shrimpton, Anna Siegel, Sarah Siegle, Madelin Singer, Anastasia Stefanou, Reuben Stoltzfus, David Suggs, Michael Tetlow, Mayte Torres, Colin Urmsen, Lindsey Vath, Brad Walker, Jae Walsh, Dan Watkins, Robert Williams, Fran Willis, Chris Wood, Ryan Zucker.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**DP** – Durland Pres, TOMP; **FPt** – Farley's Pt, CAYU; **LRPF** – Leet Rd Pd and Fields, ONTA; **MNWR** – Montezuma NWR; **MyPt** – Myers Pt, TOMP; **PW** – Palmer Woods, TOMP; **SenL** – Seneca L; **SHSF** – Shindagin Hollow State Forest, TOMP; **SLSP** – Seneca L SP; **TVE** – T Van Etten, CHEM.

**Snow Goose:** max 16 SLSP 6 Jun.

**Blue-winged Teal:** max 210 MNWR 31 Aug (KR!), high.

**Northern Shoveler:** arr 5 MNWR 14 Aug; max 70 MNWR 31 Aug (KR!), high.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** MNWR 31 Aug (KR!).

**Mallard:** max 2500 MNWR 30 Aug (BeB!), high.

**Northern Pintail:** arr MNWR 23 Jul.

**Ring-necked Duck:** arr & max 6 MNWR 25 Aug (DSH, MTE), early, high.

**Greater Scaup:** 1-3 SenL SENE 2 Jun-21 Aug (TL, RS), high.

**Lesser Scaup:** arr SenL SENE 26 Aug.

**White-winged Scoter:** last SenL YATE 6 Jun (TL!), late.

**Long-tailed Duck:** last SenL SENE 1-21 Jun (TL), late.

**Bufflehead:** last SenL SENE 12 Jun.

**Common Goldeneye:** max 4 SenL SENE 11-13 Jun (TL, RaK), high; last 2 Bozzuto Boathouse SENE 16 Jul; arr SenL SENE 28 Aug (AFa, ph), early.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** last 4 Cayuga L SENE 27 Jun (JAB), late.

**Red-necked Grebe:** last 2 SenL SENE 1-23 Jun (TL, ph), late.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** max 6 TVE 11 Jun (JCo), high.

**Common Nighthawk:** last T Seneca ONTA 17 Jun; arr 3 Ithaca Tompkins Airport TOMP 18 Aug; TCan 18 Aug; max 5 Park Station P CHEM 25 Aug.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** TVE 13 Jun (TFR, rec).

**American Avocet:** Keuka L YATE 11 Jul (AeB, ph).

**Black-bellied Plover:** last 2 Melvin Hill Cemetery ONTA 4 Jun; LRPf 4 Jun; arr 2 MNWR 19 Jul.

**American Golden-Plover:** arr MNWR 24 Aug.

**Semipalmated Plover:** last 8 MNWR 20 Jun; arr 4 MNWR 13 Jul; max 75 MNWR 29 Aug;

**Upland Sandpiper:** T Venice CAYU 29 Jul (AP, rec).

**Ruddy Turnstone:** max 40 SenL SENE 3 Jun; last Kershaw P ONTA 6 Jun; arr FPt 6 Aug.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** arr 2 MNWR 13 Jul; max 6 MNWR 19 Jul.

**Sanderling:** max 52 Elmira Dam CHEM 3 Jun (SG, ph), high; last 2 SenL SENE 3 Jun; arr SLSP 18 Jul.

**Dunlin:** last 2 MNWR 14 Jun (JM!), late; arr SLSP 25 Aug.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** arr 2 MNWR 16 Aug.

**Least Sandpiper:** last MyPt 4 Jun; arr 4 MNWR 3 Jul; max 350 MNWR 13 Jul.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** last 3 MyPt 18 Jun (mob, ph); MNWR 18 Jun (JM), late; arr 3 MNWR 13 Aug; max 6 MNWR 20 Aug.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** last LRPf 3 Jun (RN), late; arr MNWR 13 Jul; max 18 MNWR 8 Aug.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** last 14 MNWR 18 Jun (JM), late; arr 30 MNWR 13 Jul; max 120 MNWR 8 Aug.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr 6 MNWR 9 Jul; max 35 MNWR 21 Aug.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** arr MNWR 23 Jul; max 8 MNWR 27 Aug.

**Wilson's Snipe:** max 21 MNWR 15 Aug.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** max 35 MNWR 13 Jul (JM), high.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** last MNWR 6 Jun; arr MNWR 28 Jun; max 36 MNWR 17 Jul (MTe!), high.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** last MNWR 4 Jun; arr 2 MNWR 29 Jun; max 250 MNWR 13 Jul.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** last MNWR 4 Jun; arr MNWR 18 Jun (ASh), early; max 86 MNWR 25 Jul.

**Wilson's Phalarope:** last LRPf 3 Jun; MNWR 30 Jul; MNWR 6 Aug.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** MNWR 3 Jun; last 2 Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Pres TOMP 14 Jun (KB!), late; arr MNWR 31 Aug, late.

**Laughing Gull:** One Franklin Square ONTA 14 Jun (TL!, ph);

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** SenL SENE 23 Jun; MyPt 5 Jul; SLSP 4 Aug; Salt Pt Natural Area TOMP 22 Aug; Long Pt SP 28 Aug; Stevenson Road Compost Piles 31 Aug.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** max 15 Stewart P TOMP 19 Aug (MeHau, LL), high.

**Black Tern:** max 58 MNWR 5 Jul; last 3 MNWR 20 Aug.

**Common Tern:** max 5 FPt 20 Jun.

**Common Loon:** max 8 SenL SENE 1 Jun.

**Cattle Egret:** max 7 MNWR 26 Jun (MHy!), high.

**Glossy Ibis:** MNWR 18 Aug (mob!, ph).

**Black Vulture:** max 4 Sapsucker Woods TOMP 27 Jun (KMcl), high.

**Turkey Vulture:** max 150 Stevenson Road Compost Piles TOMP 27 Jul (PH, TH!), high.

**Osprey:** max 30 MNWR 17 Aug (DW!), high.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** max 3 TCan 2 Aug (BM!), high.

**Cooper's Hawk:** max 5 FPt (DSu!); 5 T Caroline TOMP 30 Jun (S. Krasnoff), high.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** max 4 TVE 14 Jun (JCo!), high.

**Snowy Owl:** T Reading SCHU 15 Jun-25 Jul (mob, ph).

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** max 4 T Potter YATE 31 Aug (HH, ph), high.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** max 15 Big Flats Trail CHEM 16 Jun (TBe), high.  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** max 14 SHSF 11 Jul (DCa, ID, BL), high.

**Peregrine Falcon:** max 5 Taughannock Falls SP 2 Jun (SL!), high.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** max 10 Stony Brook SP 3 Jun (CF), high.  
**Eastern Kingbird:** max 100 T Enfield 12 Aug (AZL!, ph), high.  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** last T Erin CHEM 5 Jun; arr T Catharine SCHU 13 Aug; max 3 T Potter YATE 24 Aug (HH!), high.  
**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** last T Dryden TOMP 23 Jun (JF!), late; arr T Prattsburgh STEU 10 Aug; max 2 Hector Land Use Area SCHU 15 Aug.  
**Acadian Flycatcher:** max 7 Cayuta Gulf SCHU 21 Jun (SP!, ph), high.  
**Alder Flycatcher:** max 8 Arnot Forest TOMP 16 Jul (BW); 8 Dotson Community P TOMP 17 Jul (WEv), high.

**White-eyed Vireo:** 2 Townsend-Grady Wildlife Pres YATE 21 Jul (JHa!); Hile School Road Wetland TOMP 23 Jul (JE!).  
**Philadelphia Vireo:** last T Starkey YATE 4 Jun (TSh, rec), late; arr Ithaca 23 Aug.

**Blue Jay:** max 59 Sapsucker Woods TOMP 13-14 Aug (AZL), high.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** T Prattsburg STEU 7 Aug (LD, NJ!).

**Carolina Wren:** max 10 Stewart P TOMP 8 Aug (CW), high.

**Swainson's Thrush:** last Jim Schug Trail TOMP 17 Jun (KC, rec), late; arr Northeast Ithaca 7 Aug; max 2 PW TOMP 24 Aug.

**Red Crossbill:** max 4 TVE 12 Jun; 4 SHSF 20 Jun; 4 Potato Hill State Forest TOMP 26 Jul.  
**Pine Siskin:** Ithaca 2 Jul (DN, ph); T Danby TOMP 13 Jul (SH).

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** max 3 T Italy YATE 20 Jul, low; last T Caroline TOMP 9 Aug.  
**Clay-colored Sparrow:** 1-2 T Lodi SENE 3-12 Jun; TCan 27 Jun.

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** Seneca Army Depot SENE 24-28 Jun (RS; mob, ph, rec).

**Bobolink:** max 4650 Queen Catharine Marsh SCHU 20 Aug (JG!), high.  
**Eastern Meadowlark:** max 50 T Pulteney STEU 28 Aug (JCa!), high.  
**Orchard Oriole:** max 7 MyPt 18 Jun; last Cornell Botanic Gardens TOMP 10 Aug, early.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** last Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Pres TOMP 20 Jul, early.  
**Louisiana Waterthrush:** max 12 Cayuta Gulf SCHU 21 Jun (SP!), high; last Six Mile Creek Natural Area TOMP 17 Aug.  
**Golden-winged Warbler:** arr Bishop Pres SENE 24 Aug (TL, ph), early.  
**"Lawrence's" Warbler:** Northeast Ithaca 4 Jul (TSc!); Sullivanville Dam CHEM 17 Jul (JG, ph).  
**Prothonotary Warbler:** MNWR 7 Aug (SM, GS, ph).  
**Tennessee Warbler:** arr Queen Catharine Marsh SCHU 6 Aug;  
**Common Yellowthroat:** max 65 T Danby TOMP 23 JUL (SP!), high.  
**Hooded Warbler:** max 22 Burdett CE 25 Jun (MHa!), high.  
**Cape May Warbler:** last Caswell Road Grasslands TOMP 8 Jun (CW!), late; arr Monkey Run TOMP 30 Jul (JBa, CW!), early; max 3 PW TOMP 24 Aug; 3 Ringwood House TOMP 31 Aug.  
**Northern Parula:** arr DP 18 Aug (JM), early.  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** max 3 PW TOMP 18 Aug; 3 PW TOMP 31 Aug.  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** max 21 Danby State Forest TOMP 11 Jun (RN), high.  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** arr & max 3 Cornell Botanic Gardens TOMP 27 Aug; PW TOMP 27 Aug.  
**Palm Warbler:** arr DP 27 Aug (JK, AS!), early.  
**Pine Warbler:** max 7 Fillmore Glen SP 29 Aug (DR!), high.  
**Prairie Warbler:** max 9 Dotson Community P TOMP 17 Jul (WEv!), high.  
**Canada Warbler:** max 11 SHSF 21 Jun (PH, TH!), high.  
**Wilson's Warbler:** arr DP 18 Aug; max 2 PW TOMP 26 Aug (JHu), high.  
**Dickcissel:** T Seneca ONTA 2 Jun (BryB, rec).



## REGION 4—SUSQUEHANNA

**William Kuk**

26 Esther Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13903

ckennykuk@stny.rr.com

June 2022 was a bit cooler and somewhat wetter than normal. July was 1.5° F warmer than the long-term average and had about an inch less rainfall than usual. August was 3.3° warmer than expected and was a bit drier than the long term (thirty year) mean.

Once again Common Gallinules were seen in Chenango County in a Sherburne marsh, but no confirmation of breeding was reported this season (thus breaking a five-year streak). However, young Gallinules were reported from two other spots in the Region. At the south end of Canadaroga Lake two juveniles were spotted near a patch of cattails on 29 June, and an adult was heard nearby. On 19 August three chicks and two adults were reported from the Cherry Valley area in Otsego County. There were perhaps ten blocks reporting possible or confirmed breeding during the 2000-2005 atlas work in the Region.

There were two pairs of Sandhill Crane seen in Chenango County this season, but no colts (as young cranes are called) were seen. Mike DeWispelaere reported in eBird, "I'm guessing the young did not survive. I have never seen both adults go off and forage without one staying with the young. Adults were first seen at Law Pond and then in a local hay field. No young seen." In previous NY Breeding Bird Atlas projects begun in 1980 and 2000, there were no reports of Sandhill Cranes breeding in the Region.

In late August there were several reports of Common Nighthawks migrating through the Region, and the numbers seemed higher than last season. For example, on 21 August sixty-plus nighthawks were seen migrating near the Beaver Kill in Delaware County by Lance Verderame who thought, even with that high number, he was underreporting.

Regarding migrating shorebirds, there were Baird's Sandpipers reported in the Region in late August. Also, Short-billed Dowitchers were seen along the Susquehanna River in both Broome and Tioga Counties in July and August. Then on 16 August a Wilson's Phalarope was seen at an eBird location named the Cortland Gravel Pits. This is a relatively large body of water with an aquamarine color visible from I-81 which, due to its color and industrial surroundings, did not look very inviting, at least to humans. Another special shorebird sighting was nowhere near a shore, but from a farm south of Owego in Tioga County. Two Upland Sandpipers were seen by members of the Schlabach family, and they then reported it so that others could see and photograph these birds. Derek Green, who saw these birds, wondered if these might be young birds since late July seemed early for migration. In any event this was a first eBird record for Tioga County, and a rare sighting for the Region.

There were 110 reports of Great Egrets in the Region from mid-July thru August compared to 130 reports in the 2021 summer season. Many sightings came from the Susquehanna and Chenango Rivers, but there were also observations from many ponds and lakes throughout the Region. It is not clear why there is such a fluctuation in numbers of Great Egrets from year to year. For example, in 2018 there were just 27 reports during the summer season.

A **Rufous Hummingbird** was reported and photographed by Linda Hall and others at a feeder near Chenango Valley State Park in Broome County. The identity of the hummingbird was verified using “its solid rufous back eliminating Allen’s” by Jay McGowan.

Swainson’s Thrushes were recorded in the Pharsalia Wildlife Management Area on 2 July by David Nicosia—he reported four singing birds. However, there were no reports in the Region of confirmed breeding for the Swainson’s Thrush. The use of audio recordings and the Merlin Birding ID in eBird seems to be on the increase which is great for documenting breeding behaviors. When I searched for “Merlin” on the eBird data base I found quite a few comments which indicated an observer had verified songs and calls using the Merlin sound ID, and in the field I see birders using the Merlin app.

Like last season there were only a few reports of Pine Siskins. However, there were 38 reports of Red Crossbills contrasting with 50 reports last year though there still seemed to be some high numbers reported. For example, Lance Verderame saw an impressive 74 crossbills in the Arctic-China State Forest in Delaware County on 4 June. There were many immature birds present, some being fed by adults.

In total, 29 species of warblers (which is about average for the Region) were seen in the season; these included a Cerulean Warbler and a singing Kentucky Warbler. The Kentucky Warbler was discovered by Dave Nicosia on 22 May in Beaver Swamp State Forest in Chenango County. The bird sang till it was last reported a month later, on 22 June, giving many a chance to see and hear it. In addition, a “Lawrence’s” Warbler (hybrid) was reported and photographed in Otsego County.

In summary, 187 species (last year 189) were reported, with some interesting rarities and vocalizations for the Region. If there are a reasonable number of reports I try to eliminate duplicate reports on the same day by different observers when reporting the number of reports in the Region. There were 85,306 observations (which is about 14% more than last year) in eBird for our Region, so I want to acknowledge and thank Bill Ostrander who sorted eBird data to identify arrivals, last dates, and high counts.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Diane Allison, Tom Auer, Catherine Barron, Lynn Bergmeyer, Susan Boyce, Marty Borko, Tayler Brooks, Robert Buckert, Ted Buhl, Garrett Camasi, Sean Camillieri, Mike Cammer, Nancy Cannon, Gerianne Carillo, Jeremy Collison,

Sandy Covington, Delaware-Otsego Audubon Soc., Ian Davies, Sam Deane, Matt Denoncour, Brianna Denoncour, Renee DePrato, Michael DeWispelaere, David Diaz, Deborah Dohne, Mark Druziak, Sarah Dzielski, William Earley, Gertrude Federici, Pete Fenner, Patty Ford, Tony Ford, John Garrett, John Gaglione, Lisa Gorn, Bob Grajewski, Derek Green, Bob Grosek, Larry Hall, Linda Hall, Mary Hall, David Harrison, Derek Hameister, Peter Harrity, Sam Heinrich, K. Holm, Jim Hoteling, Evan Howe, Jacob Jensen, Michael Jordan, Sara Kinch, Hugh Kingery, Gail Kirch, Al Kresock, Bill Kuk, Victor Lamoureaux, David Lemmo, Art Levy, Mitch Light, Randy Lynch, Evan Mann, Andy Mason, JoAnne Mattucci, Wes MacKenzie, David McCartt, Jay McGowan, Gary Meyers, Dennis Miranda, Pedro Miranda, Catherine Murphy, Jeffrey Murray, Lukas Musher, Naturalists' Club of Broome County, Dave Nicosia, Raphael Nussbaumer, NY eBird, Susan Owen, Landa Palmer, Ruth Pedersen, Bill Purcell, Jason Rashkow, John Roosenberg, Andrew Ryan, Mickey Ryan, Jo Ann Salo, Tom Salo, Livia Santana, Schlabach Family, Julian Shepherd, Rod Spangle, Cynthia Staley, Joley Sullivan, Suzanne Summers, Tom Tasber, Susan Thorne, Tioga Bird Club, Alex Trifunovic, Adam Troyer, Kathy Turner, Alison Van Keuren, Lance Verderame, Fred von Mechow, Brad Walker, Dan Watkins, Jon Weeks, Glenn Wilson, Colleen Wolpert, Chris Wood, Rich Youket, Matt Young.

ABBREVIATIONS

**BBA** – NY Breeding Bird Atlas III; **BMF** – Birdsong Meadows Farm, TIOG; **BPd** – Boland Pd, BROO; **BROO**; **CG** – Carantouan Greenway, T Barton, TIOG; **CN** – carrying nesting material; **CornellLn** – Cornell Lane, T Harford, CORT; **DorP** – Dorchester P, BROO; **FL** – fledgling(s); **FY** – feeding young; **LHNC** – Lime Hollow Nature Center, T Cortlandville, CORT; **MHL** – Michigan Hollow L, TIOG; **NMSF** – New Michigan State Forest, CHEN; **NY** – nest with young; **PHWMA** – Pharsalia WMA, CHEN; **SHM** – Sherburne Railroad Grade Marsh, CHEN; **SusRB** – Susquehanna Ri, Greater Binghamton, BROO; **ULCP** – Upper Lisle CP, T Triangle, BROO; **WHP** – William Hill P, Johnson City, BROO.

<b>Trumpeter Swan:</b> BPd thru.	rep in late Aug, numbers seem higher than last year.
<b>American Wigeon:</b> Greek Peak Mt Resort CORT 8 Jul, ph.	
<b>Green-winged Teal:</b> 6 scattered reports of likely early migrants.	<b>Chimney Swift:</b> max 50 Binghamton BROO 24 Jun; 50 WHP 23 Aug.
<b>Yellow-billed Cuckoo:</b> 120 reports throughout Region.	<b>Ruby-throated Hummingbird:</b> widely noted, 1033 lines in eBird, somewhat more reports than last year.
<b>Black-billed Cuckoo:</b> 100 reports throughout Region.	<b>RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD:</b> T Fenton BROO 19 -31 Aug, feeder, mob, ph, (L. Hall).
<b>Common Nighthawk:</b> max 63 Beaverkill Valley Rd DELA 21 Aug; 28 Fly Creek OTSE 29 Aug; 22 WHP 24 Aug; 26 other scattered	<b>Virginia Rail:</b> max 5 SHM 11 Jun & 28 Jun, ph, FL, (M. DeWispelaere).

**Sora:** SHM 8 Jun; MHL 9 Jun; Canadarago L OTSE 29 Jun.

**Common Gallinule:** max 5 Cherry Valley OTSE 19 Aug, 2 ad, 3 juv, (T. Buhl); 3 SHM 28 Jun; 3 Canadarago L OTSE 29 Jun, 1 ad, 2 juv.

**Sandhill Crane:** max 2 SHM 11 Jul -30 Aug; 2 PHWMA 29 Aug.

**Upland Sandpiper:** 2 Long Creek Rd TIOG 18-25 Jul, mob, ph, (SF).

**Baird's Sandpiper:** Prentice Rd SusRB 26 Aug, ph; SHM 28 Aug, ph; only reports.

**Least Sandpiper:** max 42 Law Pd North Norwich CHEN 9 Aug, ph, (M. DeWispelaere).

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** WHP 18 Jul, ph; Confluence P Owego TIOG 24 Aug, ph; Cannon Hole Landing TIOG 24-26 Aug, ph.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** max 12 WHP 26 Jul.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** max 10 Stupke Pd CORT 11-12 Aug.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr SHM 20 Jul.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** arr SHM 16 Jul.

**Wilson's Phalarope:** Cortland Gravel Pits CORT 16 Aug, only report (JayM).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** arr SHM 20 Jul, ph.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** Cortland Gravel Pits CORT 16 Aug, ph, (JayM).

**Caspian Tern:** 2 ULCP 13 Aug, ph.

**Common Tern:** DorP 7 Aug, ph.

**Common Loon:** max 2 Ellis L CORT 16 Jun, ph.

**American Bittern:** 2 Cherry Valley OTSE 19 Aug; MHL 7 Aug, ph.

**Least Bittern:** SHM 7 Jun; CG 17 Jun; BPd 3-21 Jul, mob, ph, audio recording; ULCP 13 Aug.

**Great Egret:** max 5 WHP 22 Aug; 110 reports thru Region, slightly fewer reports this year than last.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** WHP 9 Aug; MHL 14 Aug.

**Glossy/White-faced Ibis:** MHL 31 Aug.

**Black Vulture:** max 3 Vestal BROO 28 Aug; 6 other reports from the Vestal area with 4 other scattered reports in the Region.

**Osprey:** 4 Maryland OTSE 18 Jul, FL; 4 SusRB 10 Jul, FY.

**Northern Harrier:** 2 Brookins Rd CHEN 7 Jun, FY.

**Bald Eagle:** many reports, very widespread.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** 2 NMSF 9 Jul, FL; 65 scattered reports.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** 3 Hogsback Rd CHEN 22 Jul, nocturnal BBA; 21 other scattered reports.

**Great Horned Owl:** 2 Springfield OTSE 23 Jun, FL, begging calls.

**American Kestrel:** max 37 BMF 7 Aug, many imm, scoped from 2 locations on 150 acre farm, abundant grasshoppers seemed to be the attraction, (AdTr).

**Merlin:** max 5 Owego TIOG 26 Jul, perhaps family group, (DG).

**Peregrine Falcon:** max 3 Binghamton BROO 4 Jun, NY.

**Eastern Kingbird:** 20 ULCP 30 Jul-14 Aug; 6 BMF 24 Jul.

**Olive-Sided Flycatcher:** ULCP 2-5 Jun; West River Rd CORT 5 Jun; Shirley Rd TIOG 11 Aug, ph; only reports.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** BMF 8 Aug; 5 other reports all of singles in Aug.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** Robinson Hill SF TIOG 4 Jul; Cuyler Hill SF CORT 6 Aug; only reports.

**Horned Lark:** max 2 CornellLn 21 Jul, FL.

**Purple Martin:** 3 scattered reports.

**Brown Creeper:** max 7 Triangle SF BROO 3 Jun.

**Winter Wren:** max 7 Middletown DELA 19 Jun, FL; 7 NMSF 9 Jul.

**Marsh Wren:** most reports from BPd, MHL, and SHM; 6 SHM 22 Jul, FL, ph.

**Swainson's Thrush:** max 4 PHWMA 2 Jul, audio recordings.

**Hermit Thrush:** max 12 Dry Brook Ridge Middletown DELA 11 Jun.

**Red Crossbill:** max 74 Arctic-China SF DELA 4 Jun, FY, (LV); 38 reports from state forests thru the Region, last year there were 50 reports.  
**Pine Siskin:** max 2 Titus L Rd DELA 8 Jun; 4 other scattered reports-about the same as last year.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** max 3 Long Creek Rd TIOG 27 Jul; 3 other reports from the same area around the same time.

**Song Sparrow:** Waterman Rd Delhi DELA 22 Aug, leucistic, ph, (NC); *intro*.

**Bobolink:** max 300 (est) BMF 20 Jul.

**Orchard Oriole:** 2 Lovell Hill Rd CORT 5 Jun, CN; 2 Glimmerglass SP 14 Jun; 2 Stone House Rd CHEN 24 Jul, FY; plus a few other reports of singing males.

**Ovenbird:** max 45 NMSF 6 Jun.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** max 8 Griggs Gulf SF CORT 7 Jun, 4 pairs.

**Northern Waterthrush:** max 3 Jam Pd CHEN 12 Jul, FL.

**"Lawrence's" Warbler (hybrid):** Chlorinator Rd OTSE 11-20 Jun, ph.

**Mourning Warbler:** max 5 Houck Mt DELA 3 Jun; 5 NMSF 6 Jun; 5 Homer CORT 29 Jul.

**Kentucky Warbler:** Beaver Meadow SF CHEN 22 May-22 Jun, audio recordings, ph, mob, (DN).

**Hooded Warbler:** max 11 Tuller Hill SF CORT 17 Jul, FL.

**Cerulean Warbler:** LHNC 3 Jun.

**Dickcissel:** ULCP 14 Aug, (DN).

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## REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

**David Wheeler**

20 Waterbury Dr., North Syracuse, NY 13212  
tiger64@aol.com

Summer 2022 began with a June average maximum of 76.3° F, 1.0° below expected and the average low similar. 4.1" of rain was 0.5" above normal. While 19 days were partly-sunny or better only four days were fair, indicating no long periods where high pressure was in control. The rest of the season would be warm with July running 3.3° above the usual maximum at 85.0° and seven days above 90° vs. the average of four. Overnights were closer to historical expectations. A full 27 of 31 days were at least partly sunny and precipitation almost an inch below normal at 2.9". August continued the trend with an average maximum of 84.6° being 4.3° warmer than typical. The average minimum was a balmy 63.9°, 3.5° above expected. With 10 cloudy days rainfall was 0.8" high at 4.5". With warm days and nights, the month finished as fourth warmest on record.

A few diving ducks usually linger into early June and this year was no exception. Best were two female-type White-winged Scoters flying past Fair Haven on 3 June while Lake Neatahwanta in Fulton yielded a breeding male on 10 July for Gregg Dashnau, a first Regional record for the month. Several Brant lingered at Breitbeck Park in Oswego, noted first on 12 June and last on 9 July. Alison Kocek spotted two Ruddy Ducks on Onondaga Lake on 23 June for the season's only report of the species. Common Nighthawk continue their northbound migration into June with birds noted on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, then on 1 July. The latter two sightings were near Constantia and possibly refer to a bird investigating nesting habitat. Status in the Region as a breeder is uncertain. The

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first southbound migrants were noted on 14 August and a peak of 15 passed Split Rock on 26 August. A Whip-poor-will near Salisbury was the only report but known birds north of Oneida Lake presumably nested. Sandhill Crane was confirmed breeding at the Biddlecum Road wetlands north of Phoenix by Dashnau, who noted two adults with a young bird on 14 August.

Summer gives the Region northbound shorebirds in the first half of June, with nonbreeders, early migrants, and failed nesters already southbound by early July. Low water levels at Sandy Pond again allowed for a large expanse of the Carl Island shoal to be exposed and provide for excellent birding. It produced 13 Black-bellied and 25 American Golden-Plovers on 23 August for Matt Brown and David Wheeler, an excellent number. Brown counted 66 Semipalmated Plovers there on 8 August. A Whimbrel was found at Sandy on 20 and 23 August, while Hudsonian Godwit made a stop on the very busy 23<sup>rd</sup>. A **Marbled Godwit** was seen on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> by Brown and Kennedy Sullivan. Ruddy Turnstone was well-represented in both June and August, and several Red Knots were present during the last 10 days of the period. Stilt Sandpiper, which is a Central Flyway migrant in Spring, is always a difficult bird in the Region but this year a flock of seven showed up at Sandy on 18 July for Wheeler and Brown. Sanderling numbers were decent for both north and southbound migrations. Peep flocks were typical with the highlights being 11 White-rumped Sandpipers at Sandy on 23 and 25 August and 142 Semipalmated on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Good numbers were found for the northbound portion with 70 seen at Fair Haven by Wheeler on 3 June. Back at Sandy, 30 Short-billed Dowitchers on 23 August was an excellent count, with a Long-billed mixed in. The latter species is seldom seen in the Region in spite of its regularity at the Montezuma wetlands to our west. Brown had a brief encounter with a Red-necked Phalarope on 26 August. Fair Haven State Park gave a Willet to Tim Wing on 2 June while three were found at Sandy on 18 July. At least one bird was seen on and off throughout August. Finally, Upland Sandpipers were reported from typical locations, such as that would mean in the modern era of scarcity. Last but certainly not least, the Piping Plovers at Sandy Pond had two nests with four young thought to make it to fully-flighted and embarking upon their life journey.

Strong west to northwest winds can often be productive for lakewatching at Derby Hill in late August and the 31<sup>st</sup> yielded three Parasitic Jaegers for David Wheeler. The 23<sup>rd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> gave a Little Gull to Wheeler and Brown at Sandy Pond. At that time the exposed shoal had grown to nearly the outlet on both north and south sides with the water that remained only 50 feet wide and two feet deep. Wheeler noted that in 20 years of visiting the spot this was the shallowest he'd ever seen. Indeed he and Brown were able to wade easily across to the tip of the south spit and meet Gregg Dashnau, Mickey Scilingo, and Martin Mau there, the assembled crew then wading back. Possibly because of ideal conditions, it was an incredible year for Common Tern with 495 estimated on 26 August, a new Regional record. A Forster's Tern was spotted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> by Kennedy Sullivan and Brown, and noted on several other dates through the 21<sup>st</sup>. Status of Black Tern as

a nester on the Region's east Lake Ontario shoreline is uncertain but as many as four checked in at Sandy between 21 - 28 August, possibly birds associated with the nearby marshes of Jefferson County. The species may still be represented as a breeder for Region 5 at Howland Island and Oneida Lake's Three Mile Bay. Kate Finn also noted three at Fair Haven on 14 August, an unusual location. Black-crowned Night-Herons were noted from five locations, including at Sandy on 24 August and a family group seen at the Onondaga Lake Creekwalk area between 19 July and 21 August.

Black Vultures continue to be seen at known locations with new ones added to the list periodically. An estimated 300 Turkey Vultures near Ditch Bank Road on 13 August was an excellent count for Tony Shrimpton. No substantial flights of immature hawks were noted at Derby Hill. Jonathan Kresge found a Black-backed Woodpecker on 31 July on the Third Lake Creek Trail, a traditional location. Olive-sided Flycatcher, one of our scarcest regular passerine migrants, was seen at Labrador Hollow on 4 Jun. The spot is reliable for the species with some effort. Northern Herkimer County hosts nesting birds and several were noted there, while Mark Burns found the first Fall migrant on 28 August near Oneida Lake's North Bay. Acadian Flycatchers continued at known locations, all relatively new, but were not reported from the traditional Whiskey Hollow location. The habitat there continues to be suitable and hopefully a new pair will find it. Though it is possibly a nester in the northern part of the Region, Philadelphia Vireo was reported only once each in early June and late August. A Sedge Wren continued in the 'big fields' of Three Rivers and was noted up through the 12<sup>th</sup> of June and then again on 7 and 14 August. Whether it nested successfully is unknown but this is typically difficult for observers to determine with species living in overgrown grasslands. Sedge Wrens may also have several broods in different locations and July arrival of new birds is common.

Red Crossbill sightings came in from the Southern Highlands of Madison and Onondaga Counties, with 40 in Earlville on 5 June a good count for Michael DeWispelaere and Harmon Hoff. Pine Siskins continue to be very scarce as presumptive nesters with only Elizabeth Frascatore's yard near Dolgeville reliably reporting. Hopefully this is a cyclic phenomenon. A small number of Grasshopper and Vespers Sparrows were seen in typical locations but remain one of our least-common breeding sparrows. No Clay-colored was noted.

Dedicated readers of this report will recall that at least one Henslow's Sparrow held territory in overgrown fields at Three Rivers WMA, found in early May and last seen on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Alas, no sightings were recorded for Summer but the editor holds true to his promise of a brief historical perspective. Marge Rusk kept records of this species for Region 5 going back to the 1950s, before which not a lot is known. Up through the early 1970s breeding colonies were 'common' enough (or at least well enough known to birders) to have reasonably conspicuous Spring arrival and Fall departure dates documented. Many of the notes underscore the ephemeral nature of the birds as they seek out overgrown fields of a particular age to meet very specific nesting requirements. "Absent from fields where they

had been present for several years” in referring to summer 1956 and “Many former colonies unoccupied or sites deserted in summer” for 1966 are typical of many entries in Rusk's records, which also note the emergence of new colonies as the birds found fields exactly at the right stage of succession. Of particular interest, and indicative of how picky the birds are in site selection, is the size to which some of these colonies grew. “A new colony of 12 birds near Brewerton” was noted in 1966 and persisted for several years with nine sites known Region-wide in 1967. In 1968, 16 nesting sites were known, unimaginable by modern standards, while 15 (!) singing birds north of Chittenango and another 15 at eight additional locations were known in 1974. Rusk notes the difficulty of keeping up with the different fields used by the species and observed that in dry summers there appeared to be an earlier onset of song cessation, adding to the difficulty of finding and following progress. By 1984, “only 5 sites, mostly singles”, and by 1990 down to only one location: a particularly good field in West Monroe hosted a maximum of six pairs during the best of four years Henslow's were noted there. The last colony of any success was in the town of Mexico between 1998 and 2000, the first year hosting at least four pairs including several fledglings. Since then there have been only three singles, including the Three Rivers bird, in 22 years. Lastly and somewhat surprising to the Editor, the species is a somewhat early arrival with the first birds sometimes known to the colonies of yore in mid-April and almost always by May. Rusk wrote of departure dates in 1960: “the majority leave by mid-September but some are regularly present to mid-October at least”. A new record late would be established in Pompey on 28 October 1972.

Tom and Jo Anne Salo found Rusty Blackbirds with young in northern Herkimer County while atlasing. Like Lincoln's Sparrow and Palm Warbler, habitat exists for these in the area but is difficult to access. Other species (i.e., cohabitants) known mainly as breeders for New York from the Adirondacks are likely there. Matt Brown again hosted nesting Louisiana Waterthrush on his property near Pulaski. Only a couple other pairs are known to Oswego County as it mostly lacks the elevation gradients that lead to steep runoff and appropriate banks preferred by the species. Like others near the northern edge of their range, particularly Acadian Flycatcher and Prothonotary Warbler, one could wonder if the availability of mates is the primary limiting factor versus presence of suitable habitat.

Now one of our rarest breeding warblers, a well-seen, seemingly-pure Golden-winged was reported by Gary Meyers at a traditional location near Erieville on 25 June. Tyler Hodges also described one well from his home patch in the town of Sullivan on 14 August. Note that birds singing characteristic songs of either winged-warbler does not guarantee against a hybrid so it is best to see every bird and photograph if possible. Ken Burdick, king of Prothonotary Warblers in the Seneca River area around Cross Lake, contributed the Summer season's only report from a private 'wet woods' near Elbridge on 12 June. This part of western Onondaga and Cayuga Counties has substantial but hard-to-reach habitat for the species, with Burdick's hiking and paddling responsible for most



PHOTO GALLERY  
Summer 2022



Bar-tailed Godwit, Moriches Inlet mudflats, *Suffolk*, here 25 Jul 2022, © Sean Sime. The eighth record for New York State, this was the fourth for Moriches Inlet, and first NYS record of the Siberian/Alaskan subspecies *Lapponica lapponica baueri*. See Region 10 report for details.



Mississippi Kite, Jonesville, *Saratoga*, here 12 Jun 2022, © Jay McGowan. One of a pair which attempted nesting here; see the Region 8 report for details.



Anhinga, Lake Tappan, *Rockland*, here 21 Jul 2022, © Brendan Fogarty.



Top: White Ibis, Dobbs Ferry, *Westchester*, 29 Aug 2022, © Tom Warren.

Bottom: Red-necked Phalarope, Morningside Park, *Sullivan*, 15 Aug 2022, © John Haas.



Top: Neotropic Cormorant, Newburgh, *Orange*, here 21 Jul 2022, © Bruce Nott.

Bottom: Song Sparrow exhibiting leucistic plumage, Delhi, *Delaware*, 9 Aug 2022, © Nancy Simons. Vocalizations and manners are captured on a YouTube video here: [https://youtu.be/3DWq8o\\_xSNk](https://youtu.be/3DWq8o_xSNk)

of the area records. The season's only Prairie Warbler report was contributed by Meyers from a known location near Erieville on 30 June. Apparently previously known birds at Happy Valley and Green Lakes were not present this year.

Region 5 currently has five operating MOTUS stations located at Derby Hill, Three Rivers WMA, Rome WMA, Utica Zoo, and a site four miles south of Williamstown known as 'Fassler'. These register radio-tagged birds that fly through their 15-mile-diameter circle of detection. This season had several interesting highlights including Semipalmated Plovers tagged at Churchill Manitoba on 24 and 27 June picked up by Derby on 30 July and 19 August then at Chincoteague VA on 31 July and Brigantine NJ on 20 August. A Golden-winged Warbler tagged at Fort Drum on 19 May checked in at Derby on 28 August. The birds there represent the last stronghold of the species in this area and was presumably considered pure while in the hand for tagging. Bank Swallows banded near Montreal at the end of June passed the Derby Hill station on 20 July and 6 August. Finally, a Chimney Swift tagged on 28 May at Lac Edouard Quebec was detected by Utica on 11 August and Castleton VA the next day.

This season a total of 219 species and two hybrids were reported, which is seven above the recent 10-year average for the Region. Highlights included: Brant, White-winged Scoter, Common Nighthawk, Piping Plover, Upland Sandpiper, Whimbrel, Hudsonian Godwit, **Marbled Godwit**, Red Knot, **Long-billed Dowitcher**, Red-necked Phalarope, Willet, Forster's Tern, Black Vulture, Parasitic Jaeger, Little Gull, Black-backed Woodpecker, Sedge Wren, Red Crossbill, and Prothonotary Warbler. Expected species that were missed this Summer season include Gadwall and Clay-colored Sparrow, while those represented by only one record include Long-tailed Duck, Ruddy Duck, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Red-necked Phalarope, Parasitic Jaeger, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Black-backed Woodpecker, and Prothonotary Warbler.

Summer 2022 produced 94,128 eBird records on 7,567 checklists for Region 5, and were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v6.1. Reports were submitted by 699 people. With so many submitting to eBird, the editor would like to take this opportunity to share how the 'Contributor' names below are compiled. Names appear in the list if at least one of the following four criteria are met: (1) a person's initials are used in the 'Synopsis' section; (2) a person submits a written list of sightings to the editor; (3) a person is the only one contributing from a particular part of the Region that would otherwise have no reports; or (4) a person submits above a 'participation threshold' number of eBird records which varies by season and was set at 200 for this report. Most listed below qualified under (4) but rest assured that all submissions contribute to this report.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Carol Adams, Janet Allen, Dennis Anderson, Dave Baldrini, Sam Beguin, Sue Boettger, Carla Bregman, Joseph Brin, Matthew Brown (MBr), Ken Burdick

(KBu), Andrea Burke, Mark Burns (MBu), Bruce Carpenter, Jerry Case, Roger Chambers, David Chandler (DCh), Richard Cohen, Karl Curtis, Jim D'Angelo, Gregg Dashnau (GDa), Michael Dewispelaere, Deborah Dohne, David Dubois, Dale Eisele, Daniel & Joan Emlin, Jane Fagerland, Kaye Fenlon, Kate Finn (KFn), Kayla Fisk, Robert Fisk, Melinda Fisk, Mark Fitzsimmons (MFi), Elizabeth Frascatore (EFr), James Goetz, Louise Gomez (LGo), Barbara Gordon, Bill Gruenbaum, Kristen Haynes, Sam Heinrich, Tyler Hodges (THo), Harmon Hoff, Amy Hueber, Michael Ingles, John Killiany, Renee Kittleman, Peter Knapp, Alison Kocek (AKo), Jonathan Kresge (JKr), Christine Lamont, Gary Lee, Fred Leff, Mike Lenehan, Bill Lenhart (BLe), Beverly Levreault, Charlie Long (CLo), Jason Luscier, Scott Mardis, Lonnie Mast, Martin Mau, Kevin McGann, Jay McGowan, Tom McKay, Gary Meyers (GMe), John Moore, Margaret Napoleon, David Nash, Clair Nellis, Kevin Pace, Bonnie Parton, Matt Perry, Pamela Peters (PPe), Scott Peterson, Manoon Pliosungnoen, John Pumilio, Bill Purcell, Wally Ramsey, Paul Richardson, Carter Riley, Dylan Roberts, Jaime Rodriguez, Santos Rodriguez, John Rogers, Maya Roopnarine, Tom & Jo Ann Salo (TJS), Roberta Sampere (RSa), Charlie Scheim, Mickey Scilingo, Paul Shanahan (PSH), Ida Sheppard, Tom Sherry (TSy), Tony Shrimpton, Janet Sippel, Kent Skaggs, Julia Sparks, Reuben Stoltzfus, Anna Stunkel, Kennedy Sullivan (KSu), Faith Thompson, Judy Thurber, Kevin Topping (KTo), Scott Trefz, Merijn Van den Bosch, Matt Voelker, Valarie Vought, Drew Weber, Lisa Welch, David Wheeler (DWh), Terry White, Robert Whitman, Robert G. Williams III (RWi), Tim Wing (TWi), Kim Zahno.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**ADK** – Adirondacks, n. HERK; **BW** – Baltimore Woods, Marcellus; **BLNC** – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; **Brew** – Oneida L at Brewerton; **BRH** – Bishop Road Hawk Watch, T Richland; **Bville** – Baldwinsville; **Const** – Oneida L at Constantia; **DB** – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox, MADI; **DC** – Deer Creek Marsh, T Richland; **DH** – Derby Hill, T Mexico; **DL** – Delta L; **Dolge** – Dolgeville, HERK; **FH** – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and West Barrier Bar; **Fult** – Fulton area including Oswego River, Indian Point, L Neatahwanta; **GB** – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; **HF** – Highland Forest CP; **HI** – Howland I WMA, CAYU; **HM** – Hamlin Marsh, Clay; **HV** – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; **KK** – Kindred Kingdom Wildlife Center, Pennellville; **LH** – Labrador Hollow Unique Area; **LOnt** – L Ontario; **LoopR** – Loop Rd, Montezuma NWR, CAYU; **MCL** – Madison County Landfill; **MexPt** – Mexico Pt SP; **MH** – Morgan Hill State Forest, Fabius; **MSI** – Madison St Impoundment, Hamilton; **MW** – McKoons Road Wetland, Colombia Center, s. HERK; **OakC** – Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse; **OF** – Old Forge; **OLC** – Onondaga L Creekwalk; **OneiL** – Oneida L; **OnonL** – Onondaga L; **OLP** – Onondaga Lake P (east and west shore); **OSP** – Oneida Shores P, Brewerton; **OswH** – Oswego Harbor; **Phx** – Phoenix dam area; **PPt** – Oneida L at Phillips Pt,

W Monroe; **PSS** – Peter Scott Swamp, Phoenix; **PV** – Pleasant Valley Pres, T Onondaga; **RCFS** – Rice Creek Field Station, Oswego; **RRP** – Radisson Ri P, Three Rivers confluence, Phoenix; **SBP** – Sunset Bay P, Scriba; **SFNS** – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; **Sithe** – trails at Independence P, formerly Sithe Energy, Scriba; **SH** – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; **SHTF** – Sky High Turf Farm, Chittenango; **Skaneateles**; **SNC** – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; **SP** – Sandy Pd and vicinity; **SSSP** – Selkirk Shores SP; **SVB** – Sylvan & Verona Beach; **Syr** – Syracuse; **TNP** – Tuscarora Nature P, MADI; **TR** – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; **UM** – Utica Marsh; **VBSP** – Verona Beach SP; **WH** – Whiskey Hollow, Memphis; **WP** – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

**Snow Goose:** Bville 6 Jun; WP 4 Jul, likely injured birds; only reps.

**Brant:** 1-2 OswH 12 Jun – 9 Jul, likely injured; only rep.

**Canada Goose:** max 300 OnonL 1-9 Jul & SP 20-24 Aug.

**Mute Swan:** most reps OnonL & FH; max 15 OnonL 17 Jun.

**Trumpeter Swan:** 1-4 at expected locs; max 7 Hannibal 17 Jun.

**Wood Duck:** max 35 Biddlecum Pd 21 Aug.

**Blue-winged Teal:** no Jun/Jul reps; arr 2 SP 8 Aug; max 50 SP 26 Aug.

**Northern Shoveler:** OnonL 14 Jul; arr & max 2 SP 23 Aug.

**Gadwall:** no reports.

**American Wigeon:** SP 21 Jul; arr & max 7 DH 31 Aug.

**Mallard:** widespread; max 225 SVB 3 Jul.

**American Black Duck:** 1-2 typ locs; max 13 incl young Beaver River 7 Jul.

**Mallard x American Black Duck (hybrid):** North Bay Oneil 8, 11 Jun.

**Northern Pintail:** SP 13 Jul; arr 3 SP 17 Aug.

**Green-winged Teal:** no Jun reps; arr SP late Jul/early Aug; max 30 SP 26 Aug.

**Redhead:** Skan 5 Jun – 13 Jul; only rep.

**Ring-necked Duck:** WP 10 Jun, 4 Jul; FH 2, 9, 21 Aug; only reps.

**White-winged Scoter:** 2 fem FH 3 Jun; ad m Fulton 10 Jul (GDa), first Reg rec for Jul; only reps.

**Long-tailed Duck:** 3 DC 5 Jun; only rep.

**Hooded Merganser:** nesters typ locs; max 10 incl young HI 14 Jun.

**Common Merganser:** nesters typ locs; max 14 incl young Poland 22 Jun.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** 1-2 Phoenix 11 Jun – 11 Aug; only reps.

**Ruddy Duck:** 2 OnonL 23 Jun (AKo); only rep.

**Wild Turkey:** max 22 Earlville 24 Aug.

**Ruffed Grouse:** small nums var locs.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** small nums var locs, most presumably released by state.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** pr nesters var locs; max 8 incl young OnonL 15 Aug.

**Rock Pigeon:** flocks widespread.

**Mourning Dove:** widespread; max 35 Fulton 28 Aug.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** 1-2 var locs thru.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** 1-2 var locs thru; last Phoenix 28 Aug.

**Common Nighthawk:** last Lebanon 4 Jun; Const 15 Jun & 1 Jul; arr Lafayette 14 Aug; max 15 Split Rock 26 Aug.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** Salisbury 29 Jun; only rep but presumed nesting 2-3 locs.

**Chimney Swift:** max 68 Split Rock 18 Aug.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** max 25 Williamstown 4 Jul.

**Virginia Rail:** reps typ locs; max 8 Verona 23 Jun.

**Sora:** DC 5, 10 Jun; TR 6 Jun; Pulaski 16, 24 Jul; PV 16 Aug; only reps.

**Common Gallinule:** reps typ locs; max 19 incl young Biddlecum Pd 28 Aug.

**American Coot:** 1-3 OnonL 2 Jun, 3 Jul, 1, 15 Aug; Skan 5, 13 Jun, 28 Aug; only reps.

**Sandhill Crane:** Cicero 9 Jun; 2 HI 11 Jun; Ilion 29 Jul; 3 Biddlecum Pd 3, 14 Aug; only reps.

**Black-bellied Plover:** last SP 5 Jun; arr 2 SP 28 Jul; max 13 SP 23 Aug.

**American Golden-Plover:** arr SP 20 Jul; max 25 SP 23 Aug (MBr), exc num; Phoenix 28 Aug; only reps.

**Killdeer:** max 81 Fulton 28 Aug.

**Semipalmated Plover:** last 9 SP 13 Jun; arr 2 SP & 4 OLP 14 Jul; max 66 SP 8 Aug (MBr), exc num.

**Piping Plover:** 2 pairs nest SP, have 4 young fully fledged; max 9 SP 12, 14 Jun (KSu, MBr).

**Upland Sandpiper:** 2 SW of Dolgeville 16 Jun (EFr); Rome 10 Aug (RSa); Syr Airport 30 Aug (MBr); only reps; Deerfield birds not rep but presumed nesting.

**Whimbrel:** arr SP 20, 23 Aug (MBr, DWh); only rep.

**Hudsonian Godwit:** SP 23 Aug (MBr, DWh); only rep.

**MARbled GODWIT (R5):** SP 26, 27 Aug (MBr, KSu).

**Ruddy Turnstone:** last 8 SP 1 Jun & SP 2 Jun; arr OnonL 18 Jul; max 18 SP 23 Aug.

**Red Knot:** arr SP 9 Aug (MBr); 1-2 SP 20-30 Aug (MBr, KSu, DWh)

**Stilt Sandpiper:** arr & max 7 SP 18 Jul (DWh, MBr); 1-2 SP 8-30 Aug; only reps.

**Sanderling:** 20 SP 1 Jun; last 2 SP 12 Jun; arr SP 10 Jul; max 58 SP 20 Jul (MBr).

**Dunlin:** last SP 5 Jun; only rep.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** arr SP 17 Aug; 1-max 3 SP 18-30 Aug; only reps.

**Least Sandpiper:** last SP 5 Jun; arr OnonL 2 Jul; max 91 SP 23 Aug.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** FH 3 Jun; last SP 8 Jun; arr SP 4 Aug; max 11 SP 23, 25 Aug (MBr, DWh), good num.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** arr 4 SP 5 Aug; max 7 SP 30 Aug.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** 128 SP 2 Jun; 70 FH 3 Jun (DWh); last 10 SP 14 Jun; arr 2 SP 13 Jul; max 142 SP 23 Aug.

**peep sp:** 132 SP 1 Jun; 51 SP 5 Jun; 42 SP 12 Aug.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** arr SP 13 Jul; max 30 SP 23 Aug, good num.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** SP 23 Aug (MBr, DWh); only rep.

**American Woodcock:** max 5 TR 28 Jun.

**Wilson's Snipe:** 1-3 rep 8 locs; max 5 MW 11, 16 Aug (LGo, MFi).

**Red-necked Phalarope:** SP 26 Aug (MBr); only rep.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** max 10 OnonL 3 Jul.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** arr Herkimer 28 Jun; max 8 MW 16 Aug.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr 2 OnonL 1 Jul; max 31 SP 8 Aug.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** last OnonL 5 Jun; arr OnonL 1 Jul; max 26 SP 23 Aug.

**Willet:** FH 2-3 Jun (TWi); 3 SP 18 Jul (MBr, DWh), 4 Aug (MBr); SP 19, 21, 23 Aug (MBr, KSu).

**Parasitic Jaeger:** 3 DH 31 Aug (DWh); only rep.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** small nums Jun/Jul; 27 SP 26 Aug; max 38 SVB 29 Aug.

**Little Gull:** SP 23, 26 Aug (DWh, MBr); only rep.

**Ring-billed Gull:** max est 650 SVB 3 Jul.

**Herring Gull:** max 42 SP 9 Aug.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** few reps thru; max 6 SVB 14 Aug.

**Caspian Tern:** 90 FH 3 Jun; max 143 SP 1 Jun.

**Black Tern:** 2 HI 29 Jun; 3 FH 14 Aug (KFh), unusual loc; 1-4 SP 21-28 Aug (MBr, KSu, DWh); only reps.

**Common Tern:** max 495 SP 26 Aug (MBr, DWh), new Reg rec max.

**Forster's Tern:** SP 3, 8, 9, 21 Aug (KSu, MBr); only reps.

**Common Loon:** max 7 incl young Twitchell L 25 Jun, 31 Jul, 1 Aug.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** max est 500 OnonL 15 Aug.

**American Bittern:** max 4 DC 5, 6, 10 Jun.

**Least Bittern:** singles typ locs; max 2 Oswego 24 Jun.

**Great Blue Heron:** max 54 Cato 17 Jun; best nums all at breeding colonies.

**Great Egret:** singles var locs 1 Jun thru; max 2 OLP 2 Jun, 23 Aug.

**Green Heron:** max 8 OSP 12 Aug.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** GSC 16 Jul; SP 24 Aug (GDa); 2 UM 24 Aug; Remsen 30 Aug (DCh), unusual loc; 1-5 OLC 19 Jul – 21 Aug; only reps.

**Black Vulture:** reps continue known locs Jamesville, Oneida, Little Falls, Rome, Canastota; 2 Salisbury 7 Jul (KTo); Hamilton 21 Aug (PSh); unusual locs.

**Turkey Vulture:** max est 300 DB 13 Aug.

**Osprey:** max 7 OshW 4 Jul, 9 Aug.



**Northern Harrier:** max 7 incl young, Salisbury late Jul (KTo); few reps typ locs.  
**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 1-2 exp locs thru but only 20 reps.  
**Cooper's Hawk:** max 5 incl young Const 15 Jun & Whitesboro 17 Jul.  
**Bald Eagle:** imm & adults var locs incl nesters; max 12 DH 22 Jun, dispersal.  
**Red-shouldered Hawk:** 1-2 rep var typ locs.  
**Broad-winged Hawk:** 1-5 rep var locs; 6 DH 16 Jun, max 12 DH 22 Jun, 11 DH 29 Aug, dispersal flights.  
**Red-tailed Hawk:** widespread nester/resident; max 11 DH 29 Aug, dispersal.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** singles/pairs typical locs.  
**Great Horned Owl:** widespread resident.  
**Barred Owl:** widespread resident; reps typ locs.  
**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** Waterville 20 Jul (RWi); only rep.

**Belted Kingfisher:** widespread; max 8 Forestport 19 Jul.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** reps from established locs.  
**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** widespread resident.  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** max 12 Erieville 9 Jul.  
**Black-backed Woodpecker:** OF 31 Jul (JKr); only rep.  
**Downy Woodpecker:** widespread resident.  
**Hairy Woodpecker:** widespread resident.  
**Northern Flicker:** widespread; max 11 Erieville 5 Aug.  
**Pileated Woodpecker:** widespread resident.

**American Kestrel:** max 9 incl young, Mindenville 11 Aug; family groups var locs.  
**Merlin:** max 5 incl young, N Hartford 10 Jul; nesters var locs.  
**Peregrine Falcon:** singles/nesting pairs typ locs.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** max 10 Tully 2 Jul.  
**Eastern Kingbird:** max 10 Hamilton 24 Jul.  
**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** last LH 4 Jun (CLO); Big Moose (PPe) & Sunday L (BLc) 14 Jun, nesters; arr North Bay OneIL 28 Aug (MBu).  
**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** max 15 MH 9 Jul.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** last Waterville 5 Jun; 1-3 N HERK 15, 16 Jun, 9 Jul, 2 Aug, nesters; arr Salisbury 16 Aug.  
**Acadian Flycatcher:** singles/pairs Hannibal, SNC, Minetto, Parish, Fulton; BLNC 13 Jun, unusual loc; not rep from traditional WH loc.  
**Alder Flycatcher:** max 12 TR 19 Jul.  
**Willow Flycatcher:** max 8 DB 15 Jun.  
**Least Flycatcher:** max 8 Redfield 4 Jun.  
**Eastern Phoebe:** max 10 Pratts Falls 16 Jul.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** max 4 TR 30 Jun.  
**Blue-headed Vireo:** max 9 Muller Hill SF 10 Jul.  
**Philadelphia Vireo:** last Const 2 Jun; arr Fulton 28 Aug; only reps.  
**Warbling Vireo:** max 6 Cardiff 8 Jun & Cato 7 Jul.  
**Red-eyed Vireo:** max 39 L Rondaxe N HERK 20 Jun, counts depend heavily on distance.

**Blue Jay:** widespread; max 17 McKeever 13 Jul.  
**American Crow:** widespread; max 150 Salisbury 5 Aug.  
**Fish Crow:** max 5 Bville, Rome, OLP mid-Aug; 1-4 rep typ locs.  
**Common Raven:** max 6 var locs/dates; 1-5 widespread thru.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** widespread resident; max 42 Muller Hill 10 Jul.  
**Tufted Titmouse:** widespread resident except N HERK & N ONEI.

**Horned Lark:** max 11 Phoenix 28 Aug; rep 5 locs.

**Bank Swallow:** max 26 Bville 21 Jul.  
**Tree Swallow:** max 150 OLP 23 Jun.  
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** max 30 Rome 21 Jun.  
**Purple Martin:** max 32 North Bay OneIL 20 Aug.  
**Barn Swallow:** max 1200 DC 9 Aug (MBr), exc num.  
**Cliff Swallow:** max 10 Phoenix 18 Jun; reps typ locs.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** Big Moose N HERK 14, 15 Jun, nester; arr Manlius 20 Aug.  
**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 30 Muller Hill 10 Jul.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 315 North Bay Oneil 21 Aug, lakeshore flight.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** small groups typ locs; max 22 Muller Hill 10 Jul.

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** widespread resident.

**Brown Creeper:** max 5 var locs Jun.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** max 5 OLP 2 Jul.

**House Wren:** max 14 Pulaski 24 Jun.

**Winter Wren:** max 6 Muller Hill SF 10 Jul.

**Sedge Wren:** TR 6, 12 Jun, 7, 14 Aug; only rep.

**Marsh Wren:** max 15 DC 5 Jun.

**Carolina Wren:** small nums typ locs, mostly ONON.

**Gray Catbird:** max 22 Canastota 22 Jun.

**Brown Thrasher:** max 6 GLSP 18 Jun.

**Northern Mockingbird:** singles/pairs typ locs, mostly ONON.

**European Starling:** max 422 Const 29 Jun.

**Eastern Bluebird:** max 10 Central Sq 28 Jun & Williamstown 23 Jul.

**Veery:** max 14 Erieville 3 Jul.

**Swainson's Thrush:** 1-3 nest var locs incl Redfield & N ONEI & HERK; arr Syr 18 Aug.

**Hermite Thrush:** max 12 MH 9 Jul.

**Wood Thrush:** max 16 Pulaski 28 Jun.

**American Robin:** widespread; max 30 FH 6 Jun.

**House Sparrow:** flocks widespread resident.

**House Finch:** widespread resident; max 13 Cazenovia 29 Jun.

**Purple Finch:** max 7 Big Moose 7 Jul; Cazenovia 15 Jul.

**Red Crossbill:** flocks typ locs SH & ADK thru 29 Jul; max 40 Earlville 5 Jun, best nums this loc; no reps Aug.

**Pine Siskin:** most reps & max 5 Dolgeville 1 Jun, very scarce in Reg.

**American Goldfinch:** flocks common & widespread; max 57 OnonL 18 Aug.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** few reps typ locs, scarce; max 2 DeWitt, Lacona, Rome Jun.

**Chipping Sparrow:** max 28 OakC 23 Jul.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** no reports.

**Field Sparrow:** max 11 GLSP 4 Jul & BW 22 Jul.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 16 Earlville 10 Jul.

**White-throated Sparrow:** max 16 Thendara 20 Jun.

**Vesper Sparrow:** 2 SFNS 10 Jun; Earlville 20 Jun & 7 Jul; Erieville 25 Jun; DB 28 Jun; 2 Cazenovia 30 Jun; Fulton 9 Jul; Fairdale 11 Jul; only reps.

**Henslow's Sparrow:** no reports; *intro*.

**Savannah Sparrow:** max 9 Bville 25 Jun.

**Song Sparrow:** max 29 OLP 17 Aug.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** 1-2 Big Moose N HERK 2 locs 14, 15 Jun; only reps but nests remote locs same area.

**Swamp Sparrow:** max 20 PSS 16 Jul.

**Eastern Towhee:** max 12 Erieville 3, 9, 15 Jul.

**Bobolink:** max 75 SFNS 28 Aug.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** max 6 Fulton 28 Aug.

**Orchard Oriole:** max 4 GLSP 18 Jun; few reps typ locs thru 15 Jul.

**Baltimore Oriole:** max 11 Rome 2 Jul.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** max est 1000 B'ville 8 Aug & Lakeport 23 Aug.

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max 20 Syr 17 Jul.

**Rusty Blackbird:** 6 incl young Big Moose N HERK 14 Jun (TJS); Big Moose 12 Aug (TSy).

**Common Grackle:** max 320 Const 1 Jul.

**Ovenbird:** max 30 HV 16 Jun.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** 5 reps typ locs thru 31 Jul, none after; max 6 incl young, Pulaski 24, 28 Jun (MBr), unusual loc, *intro*.

**Northern Waterthrush:** max 5 WP 12 Jun.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** Erieville 25 Jun (GMe); TSullivan 14 Aug (THo); only reps.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** max 3 TR 1 Jun.

**"Lawrence's" Warbler:** GLSP 4, 8, 13 Jun.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** max 8 N HERK 14 Jun.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** Elbridge 12 Jun (KBu), only rep.

**Tennessee Warbler:** arr OF & Oneil 16 Aug; Salisbury 25 Aug.

**Nashville Warbler:** max 8 Redfield 9 Jun.

**Mourning Warbler:** max 6 Earlville 10 Jun.

**Common Yellowthroat:** max est 25 MH 30 Jun.

**Hooded Warbler:** max 6 Kirkland 4 Jun, likely more SNC.

**American Redstart:** max 30 DC 23 Jun.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr Const 16 Aug; 6 other locs Aug thru.

**Cerulean Warbler:** max 9 HI 14 Jun; small num's few locs but none after 7 Jul-likely corresponds to song cessation.  
**Northern Parula:** max 5 Thendara 20 Jun; reps nesting N HERK thru mid-Jul; arr Const 27 Aug.  
**Magnolia Warbler:** max 12 Earlville 14 Jun.  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr North Bay 7 Aug; 7 other reps var locs 16 Aug thru.  
**Blackburnian Warbler:** max 15 MH 3 Jun.  
**Yellow Warbler:** max 20 OLP 17 Jun.  
**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** max 13 Muller Hill SF 10 Jul.  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** last FH 3 Jun; 2 Eagle Bay 15 Jun poss nesters; arr SFNS 30 Aug.  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** max 18 Muller Hill SF 10 Jul.

**Palm Warbler:** no reps but small num likely nest remote bogs N HERK.  
**Pine Warbler:** max 8 SSSP 25 Jun.  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** max 13 Thendara 20 Jun.  
**Prairie Warbler:** Erieville 14 Jun (GMe), only rep.  
**Black-throated Green Warbler:** max 6 N HERK 20 Jun.  
**Canada Warbler:** max 5 N HERK 15 Jun.  
**Wilson's Warbler:** arr Cazenovia 30 Aug.  
**Scarlet Tanager:** max 5 Earlville 3 Jun.  
**Northern Cardinal:** widespread resident.  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** max 8 Oswego 30 Jun.

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## REGION 6—ST. LAWRENCE

**Jeffrey S. Bolsinger**

98 State Street, Canton NY 13617

jsbolsinger@yahoo.com

Overall the summer was dry and slightly cooler than average, at least until an August warm up. Watertown's mean temperature for June was 65.2° F and for July was 70.6°, 0.8° and 0.6° degrees below normal, respectively. The mean temperature for August was 71.5°, 1.2° above normal. The season's high temperature of 90° was reached on 21 July and 21 and 31 August, but high temperatures did not persist for more than two or three days at a time all summer. Precipitation was below normal all three months, ranging from 2.7" in June to 2.3" in July, and a seasonal precipitation total of 7.5", just 62% of normal.

Piping Plovers successfully nested at Lakeview WMA for the first time since 2015. Both members of the nesting pair came from Sandy Island Beach State Park in Oswego County, and this nesting attempt apparently represents the first breeding by locally produced plovers in 50 years. One of the three juveniles that hatched in late June was lost, but the other two survived to fledging despite the female disappearing soon after hatching, and the male disappearing by 11 July.

High water left little shorebird habitat along Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River, but below normal precipitation resulted in low water at many ponds and lakes providing plenty of exposed mud. Nowhere was this more evident than at Perch River WMA, where extensive mudflats at the Allen Road pool led to excellent shorebirding during the latter half of August. Among the notable shorebirds here were high counts of seven Stilt Sandpipers on 19 August, and two Baird's Sandpipers, 44 Pectoral Sandpipers, 85 Semipalmated Sandpipers, 177

Lesser Yellowlegs, and most surprisingly, one Buff-breasted Sandpiper on 31 August. Despite the high water at Lake Ontario there was room for a few shorebirds, including **Willetts** at Lakeview WMA on 17 July and 4 August, and the season's only Whimbrel at El Dorado on 19 August. Willet sightings in Jefferson County have increased in recent years, most likely because Lakeview WMA is getting more attention than it has for quite a while thanks to the Piping Plovers nesting there.

Numbers of Common Terns nests on the St. Lawrence River have been declining since 2015, but may have finally stabilized, as the 1,023 nests documented by Lee Harper and his colleagues was slightly more than they found in 2021. These nests produced an average of 1.9 fledglings/nest, the highest productivity seen on the river in nearly two decades. At Little Galloo Island the 2,174 Caspian Tern nests counted by DEC biologists represented a 12% drop from 2021, with avian influenza likely accounting for the decline. The Ring-billed Gull nest count of nearly 38,000 nests was 11% lower than the last full nest count conducted ten years previously. A Great Black-backed Gull nest at Little Galloo Island was the first since 2008, and at Gull Island Herring Gulls set a new high nest count of 155.

The summer was bracketed by the season's two biggest rarities, starting with a **Tricolored Heron** Brian Miller found at Perch River WMA on 4 June that stayed for most of the month. A few lucky visitors saw the Tricolored Heron easily and at close range, but most of the time this unprecedented visitor to Region 6 stayed hidden in the cattails only giving brief and often distant views. On 17 August Hollis White found an immature **Little Blue Heron** at Whalen Park, but unlike the Tricolored, this rare visitor departed the morning after it was found and few birders were lucky enough to see it.

Several of the less common grassland birds continue to just barely hold on in Region 6. Upland Sandpiper appears to have modestly increased at Fort Drum, but as has become the norm there were only two reports away from the military installation, both in the same general area in northwest Jefferson County where reports have come from over the last few years. Henslow's Sparrow seems to be in even worse shape, with no reports away from Dog Hill Road at Perch River WMA, where about 5-7 singing birds were detected. One Henslow's Sparrow that was found on several dates in May at Fort Drum could not be found during the summer. Sedge Wren was relatively scarce this year because of dry conditions, with fewer than ten individuals reported.

Although outnumbered more than two to one by Blue-winged Warblers in southern and western Jefferson County, Golden-winged Warbler numbers still seem robust in the Frontenac Arch area of eastern Jefferson and western St. Lawrence Counties. This summer at least 48 Golden-winged Warblers and just 13 Blue-winged Warblers were reported on the Frontenac Arch, and it seems that the latter species is increasing here at a much slower rate than just a few miles to the south and west. Farther northeast, in the St. Lawrence Valley around Dekalb and

Canton, Golden-winged Warblers also still seem to outnumber Blue-winged Warblers, although the latter is increasing here, too.

For the season I received reports of 213 species, about six above average and exceeded in recent history only by the 215 reported in 2015 and 2017. The Tricolored Heron was the clear bird of the season, both because of its rarity and because unlike most rare species that show up in Region 6 a good number of people saw it. The Little Blue Heron really deserves to share Bird of the season honors although it would have been nice had it stuck around a while.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Sue Adair, Alan Belford, Brian Berg, Jeff Bolsinger, Robin Booth, Richard Brouse, Matthew Brown, Carol Cady, Brad Carlson, Bernie Carr, Hobart & Martha Collins, Gregg Dashnau, Laura Desmond, Ben Dixon, Deborah Dohne, Emily Dowd, Deborah Earl, Harold Ellingsen, Doug & Ann Emlin, Daniel Emlin, Howie Erichson, Julie Fogden, Max Glines, Rick Gould, Barbara Hostetler, Janelle Jones, Nick Kachala, Steve Kelling, Alison Koczek, Alejandra Lewandowski, Rachel Lewis, Nancy Loomis, John McDaniel, Jay McGowan, Martin Mau, Irene Mazzocchi, Brian Miller, Daniel Miller, Steven Mix, Anne Moomey, Claire Nellis, Raphael Nussbaumer, Asa Reed, Mandi Roggie, Vanessa Rojas, Livia Santana, Ron Schlegel, Glenn Seeholzer, Antony Shrimpton, Raymond Spahn, Brad Walker, Tom & Eileen Wheeler, Hollis White, Suon Yong.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**ADK** – Adirondack Mountains; **AFWMA** – Ashland Flats WMA; **CBr** – Chaumont Barrens Pres; **CCSP** – Coles Creek SP; **CV** – T Cape Vincent; **ED** – El Dorado Shores Pres, T Ellisburg; **FD** – Fort Drum Military Reservation, JEFF & LEWI; **JEFF** – Jefferson County; **LBSF** – Lonesome Bay State Forest; **LEWI** – Lewis County; **LGI** – Little Galloo I; **LWMA** – Lakeview WMA; **MM** – Massawepie Mire, T Colton & Piercefield, STLA; **PRWMA** – Perch Ri WMA, JEFF; **PtPen** – Pt Peninsula, T Lyme, JEFF; **RLT** – Richard’s Landing Trail, T Massena; **SLR** – St. Lawrence Ri; **SLV** – St. Lawrence Valley; **STLA** – St. Lawrence County; **ULLWMA** – Upper and Lower Lakes WMA, T Canton; **WHWMA** – Wilson Hill WMA; **WISP**—Wellesley I SP; **WP** – Whalen P, T Louisville.

**Mute Swan:** max 16 T Clayton 22 Jun; increasing primarily SLR JEFF.

**Trumpeter Swan:** max 8 ULLWMA 19 Jun and PRWMA 26 Jun.

**Wood Duck:** max 240 Coles Creek T Waddington 20 Aug.

**Blue-winged Teal:** max 86 WP 27 Aug.

**Northern Shoveler:** LBSF 5 Jun; only report before max 4 Perch L 19 Aug.

**Gadwall:** 2 T Lyme 9 Jun & PRWMA 23 Jun only reports before 17 Aug.

**American Wigeon:** arr WHWMA 13 Aug; max 2 PRWMA 19 Aug.

**Mallard:** max 650 mouth Coles Creek 20 Aug.

**American Black Duck:** max 27 WHWMA 20 Aug.

**Green-winged Teal:** PRWMA 23 Jun only report before Aug; max 40 WP 27 Aug.

**Canvasback:** m WHWMA 30 Jul (JSB) rare summer.

**Redhead:** arr WHWMA 13 Aug where max 9 27 Aug).

**Ring-necked Duck:** max 40 ULLWMA 26 Aug.

**Common Goldeneye:** WP 13 Aug scarce in summer.

**Hooded Merganser:** max 9 PRWMA 12 Jun & WP 20 Aug.

**Common Merganser:** max 53 ED 6 Aug.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** 2 T Clayton 22 Jun only report.

**Ruffed Grouse:** many broods reported, seemed like good year of productivity.

**Spruce Grouse:** near Low's L 24 Jun (E. Dowd) max 6 incl 3 juv near MM 24 Aug (L. Desmond).

**Pied-billed Grebe:** max 48 WHWMA 13 & 27 Aug.

**Red-necked Grebe:** SLR near Rob Roy Island 28 Aug (H. & M. Collins).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** 18 reports.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** 38 reports; max 4 FD 11 Jun.

**Common Nighthawk:** up to 10/day FD thru; all other reports certainly migrants; max 75 T Diana 18 Aug (B. Carlson).

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** about 45 reports of 100+ ind; max 60 FD on 2 10-stop survey routes night of 13-14 Jun.

**Chimney Swift:** max 24 T Potsdam 27 Jul.

**Virginia Rail:** max 4 PRWMA 12 Jun & ULLWMA 24 Aug.

**Sora:** singles from 8 loc.

**Common Gallinule:** max 18 PRWMA 25 Jun.

**American Coot:** up to 5/day PRWMA thru where apparently nested.

**Sandhill Crane:** pr w juv T Clayton 31 Jul (B. Miller); reports from 5 other loc JEFF & STLA.

**Black-bellied Plover:** max 9 PRWMA 31 Aug.

**Killdeer:** max 54 RLT 27 Aug.

**Semipalmated Plover:** max 36 PRWMA 31 Aug.

**Piping Plover:** Nest LWMA fledged 2 chicks *intro*.

**Upland Sandpiper:** 8-10 pr FD to mid-Jul; only other breeding reports Lowe & Sternberg Rds T Clayton 16 Jun to 31 Jul (R.

Nussbaumer, mob); migrants T Lowville 16 Aug (D. Earl) & T Leray 22 Aug (JSB).

**Whimbrel:** ED 19 Aug only report.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** 2 RLT 27 Aug; only report.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** max 7 PRWMA 19 Aug high.

**Sanderling:** max 5 LWMA 21 Jul.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** 2 PRWMA 31 Aug only report.

**Least Sandpiper:** 92 ED 18 Aug; max 95 WP 20 Aug.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** WP 5 Jun; ED 17-19 Aug; WHWMA 18 Aug; max 2 WP 20 Aug; PRWMA 31 Aug.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** PRWMA 31 Aug (JSB, R. Brouse) rare R6.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** max 44 PRWMA 31 Aug.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 85 PRWMA 31 Aug.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** max 7 PRWMA 20 Aug; WP 20 Aug only other report.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** max 13 ED 18 Aug.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** max 3 LWMA 7 Jul.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 177 PRWMA 31 Aug high.

**WILLET (R6):** LWMA 17 Jul (S. Mix); 2 LWMA 4 Aug (A. Kocek).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** max 15 WP 16 Aug.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** CCSP 27 Aug

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 7 Little Hammond Pt 11 AUG.

**Ring-billed Gull:** 38,766 nests counted on decadel LGI count 11% lower than 2012.

**Herring Gull:** 155 nests Gull I record high.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** single nest LGI first since 2008.

**Caspian Tern:** 2174 nests LGI 12% lower than 2021; 2 tested positive for avian influenza LGI.

**Black Tern:** max 31 PRWMA 20 Jul; up to 6/day Swamp Road T Lyme Jun; AFWMA 19 Jun; 2 Wilson's Bay CV 24 Jun; also nesting ULLWMA & WHWMA.

**Common Tern:** 1023 nests SLR > 90% on NYS side river where highest productivity since 2007 *intro*.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 4172 nests LGI.

**Least Bittern:** max 5 PRWMA 6 & 26 Jun; reports from another 12 loc JEFF & STLA.

**Great Egret:** max 28 WHWMA 18 Aug.

**LITTLE BLUE HERON (R6):** WP 17-18 Aug (H. White, E. Wheeler, B. Hostetler).

**TRICOLORED HERON:** PRWMA 4-24 Jun (B. Miller, mob, photos!); 1<sup>st</sup> Regional record.

**Green Heron:** max 6 PRWMA 26 Jun.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** 9 nests Gull I only location in eastern L Ontario; max 167 nests Murphy I.

**Turkey Vulture:** max 70 T Lowville 16 Jul.

**Northern Goshawk:** aggressive adult near nest 19 Jun & 2 fledglings 31 Jul at known T Colton nesting site.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** 4 reports N JEFF incl max 4 Jolly I 25 Jun; Massawepie Lake 4 Aug only other report.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** Red L 13 Jul; max 6-7 terr FD thru.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** max 4 T Dekalb 22 Jul; increasing SLV.

**Black-backed Woodpecker:** MM 14 & 25 Jun, 9 Jul; no other reports.

**Merlin:** reports from at least 39 loc; widespread breeder throughout.

**Peregrine Falcon:** reports from 10 loc none known nesting sites.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** reports from at least 10 loc ADK more than in recent years; migrants Otter Creek Pres 17 Aug & FD 19 Aug.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** max 10 MM 10 Jun; migrant ED 18 Aug.

**Alder Flycatcher:** max 39 FD 14 Jun.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** FD 23 & 25 Aug; Red Barn Pres 31 Aug; only reports.

**Canada Jay:** max 5 MM 11 Jul; also 2 Dead Creek Flow trail T Fine 9 Jul; 4 Lpd 19 Jun; 2 White Hill Wild Forest 15 Jul.

**Common Raven:** max 10 T Pierrepont 11 Aug; ubiquitous throughout.

**Boreal Chickadee:** no reports.

**Horned Lark:** T Clayton 16 & 18 Jun; T Canton 28 Jul; largely overlooked as is typical for summer.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** max 3 MM 25 Jun (J. McGowan & L. Santana); 2 additional reports MM.

**Sedge Wren:** 2 FD 25 Jun & 4 Jul; 3 in 2 hayfields T Canton 23 Jul at least 1 still present 20 Aug; Spiles Bridge Rd Town Oswegatchie 14 Jun; relatively scarce.

**Carolina Wren:** reports from 12 loc, increasing after several poor years.

**Northern Mockingbird:** PtPen 3 Jun (J. McDaniel); CBr 5 Jun (R. Spahn); T West Turin 7 & 12 Jun (D. Earl); WISP 24 Jun (M. Mau); T Louisville 10 Jul (M. Glines); T Theresa 13 Aug (B. Walker); multiple reports FD thru; more than usual.

**Swainson's Thrush:** 2 T Canton 13 Aug only report outside ADK or Tug Hill.

**Evening Grosbeak:** 2 Hitchins Bog 8 Jul (A. Belford); 3 over WP 27 Aug (JSB)

**Red Crossbill:** 28 reports from 18 loc throughout R6; max 10 MM 10 Jun.

**Pine Siskin:** T Parishville 26 Jun & 15 Jul; T Canton 2 Jul; T Waddington 20 Aug.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** max 26 FD 2 Jul.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** max 15 FD 14 Jun.

**Vesper Sparrow:** max 40 FD 2 July.

**Henslow's Sparrow:** 5-7 m Dog Hill Rd PRWMA Jun-Jul; no other reports.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** max 14 MM 25 Jun.

**Orchard Oriole:** CV 24 Jun (S. Kelling); WISP 20 Jul (R. Schlegel); only reports.

**Rusty Blackbird:** flyover MM 25 Jun (J. McGowan & L. Santana); Janack's Landing Trail T Fine 9 Jul (B. Carr); only reports.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** Peabody Rd T Gouverneur 6 Jun; Corrigan Hill Rd T Denmark 29 Jun; only reports.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** at least 48 reported Frontenac Arch region Jun & Jul *intro*.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** 13 reported Frontenac Arch region Jun & Jul.

**Tennessee Warbler:** last spring migrant LBSF 5 Jun; arr Little Hammond Point 13 Aug; max 12 FD 23 Aug.

**Hooded Warbler:** 4 reports 5 ind usual loc T Ellisburg & Lorraine Jun & Jul; Salmon River Rd T Lowville 29 Jun & Michigan Mills Rd T

W Turin 20 Jul LEWI where infrequently reported.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr Little Hammond Point 10 Aug; max 20 FD 23 Aug.

**Cerulean Warbler:** at least 37 ind from 21 loc Indian River Lakes E to Dekalb; better than usual coverage.

**Northern Parula:** T Clayton 5 Jun R. Booth); Iroquois Dam Horse Trails T Waddington 14 Jul (JSB); FD 20 Jul (JSB); WISP 25 Jul (H.

Erichson); only Jun or Jul reports away from ADK or Tug Hill.

**Magnolia Warbler:** CBr 5-26 Jun; T Lowville 9 Jun; StPt 11-18 Jun; several reports T West

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** arr T Dekalb 12 Aug; max 14 FD 23 Aug.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** 4 FD 29 Aug only report.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:**

**Palm Warbler:** max 25 MM 25 Jun.

**Prairie Warbler:** max 13 FD 2 & 6 Jul



## REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

**Bill Krueger**

40 Colligan Point Rd, Plattsburgh, NY 12901  
billkrueger@hotmail.com

**Derek Rogers**

54 Corlear Drive, Willsboro, NY 12996  
drogers0031@gmail.com

With the exception of Essex County all of Region 7 received at least 5" of rain in June. Northern Clinton County received 6-7" and a large swath from Hamilton County north to Franklin County suffered over 7". Temperatures for the month deviated less than a degree from normal either way everywhere except for an area in Hamilton County, which was 1-3° colder than normal.

In July temperatures followed the same pattern with deviations from normal of less than a degree either way except for a small area in southeast Essex County which was 1-3° warmer than normal. July was a wet month in Region 7. Essentially the entire Region absorbed at least 3-4" of precipitation. All of Hamilton and some of both Essex and Franklin Counties received 4-5". Scattered small areas of Clinton County got only 2-3"; similarly, small areas of Hamilton and Franklin Counties got over 5".

August precipitation levels did not depart significantly from those of July. Small scattered areas experienced 5-6" of rain. The bulk of Region 7 received 4-5", while southern portions got 3-4" of precipitation. Clinton was the driest county, where it averaged 2-3" of rainfall with some areas getting less than 2". August was the warmest of the three months of the season. All of Clinton County, the northern half of Franklin County and the northeast corner of Essex County were 1-3° warmer than normal. The remainder of the Region was 3-5° above average.

The level of Lake Champlain began the season at 97.4 feet and declined nearly linearly to 94.3 feet on 31 August. At the former level the mud flats at Laurin's Pool were under water and only began to reappear when the northward



shorebird migration was over. In July the level was low enough to expose most of these mud flats. Both Least Sandpiper and Short-billed Dowitcher were recorded as the southward migration began. By early August the flats at Laurin's Pool were completely dry creating unfavorable conditions. Thus, shorebird sightings along Lake Champlain were mostly restricted to the sandy exposed deltas at Ausable Point and Noblewood Park.

The 20 June sighting of a pair of **Trumpeter Swans** on Chasm Lake at Altona Flat Rock in June was only the second summer record for Region 7. A photo of a **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** carrying a caterpillar was the first record of confirmed breeding for this species in Clinton County. Until 2020, Yellow-billed Cuckoo was seldom detected in Region 7. The average number of summer season reports from 2003 through 2019 was a mere 0.89 (eBird. 2023. eBird: An online database of bird distribution and abundance [web application]. eBird, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Available: <http://www.ebird.org>. Accessed: May 2, 2023). In 2020, there were 36 reports of Yellow-billed Cuckoo which represented a steep and widespread influx of this species. Numbers of reports continued to remain solid in 2021 and 2022 with 17 and 20, respectively. This intense spike in numbers directly correlates with the recent spongy moth (*Lymantria dispar dispar*) outbreak.

**Sandhill Crane** bred successfully at its Tupper Lake site for the seventh consecutive year.

**Bonaparte's Gulls**, once the most dominant late-summer gull species on Lake Champlain, was shockingly absent for a second year in a row. The Region's maximum count this season came from Noblewood Park, as expected; however, it involved a paltry 14 individuals compared to the several hundred we've grown accustomed to. Most of the historic staging areas not only attract large numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls, but they persist throughout the latter half of the summer season and well into the fall. Since 2021, this trend came to a near complete halt, and a gull species that was once a daily late summer sighting became mysteriously scarce.

Bonaparte's Gulls depart from their northern breeding grounds in late July. Individuals begin arriving and staging along the west side of Lake Champlain, and favoring the large sandy deltas that form at the mouths of the Boquet and Ausable Rivers where they often remain through the fall season. Noblewood Park in Willsboro is situated at the mouth of the Boquet River and has historically served as the most popular staging area for Bonaparte's Gulls in Region 7, thus their initial decline in 2021 was first noticed at this location. Efforts to detect Bonaparte's Gulls at other known staging areas, as well as foraging areas in the middle of Lake Champlain, produced the same results—a recognized steep reduction in numbers. See graph below.

A snapshot of summer season high count eBird data from Noblewood Park since 2002 portrays this noted drop in numbers. It's possible that 2012 was a down year for Bonaparte's Gulls as indicated by comparatively low numbers at other known staging areas. And while 2005 appears to be on the low side, totals jumped

to 500 individuals in September, providing evidence that Bonaparte's Gulls did eventually show up that year. Fall high counts are sometimes greater than summer. Unfortunately, that was not the case in 2021 or 2022, and fall numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls were also comparatively low. The 0 recorded individuals in 2002 can be attributed to an absence of data. The back-to-back low counts at Noblewood Park in 2021 and 2022 clearly indicate a change in the pattern and distribution of post breeding Bonaparte's Gulls on Lake Champlain. Whether this is a temporary or more permanent change is yet to be fully understood.

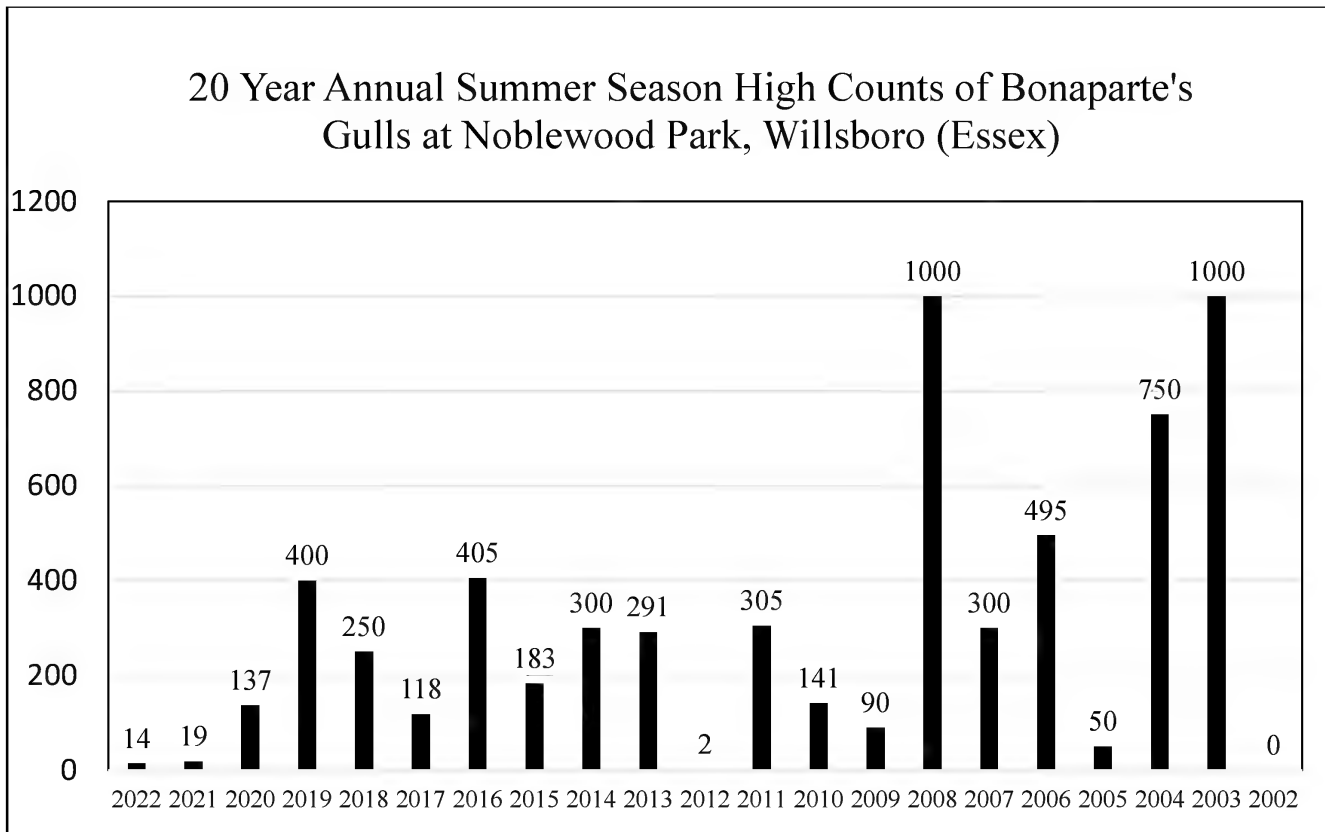
The decrease in Bonaparte's Gulls directly correlates with a drop in the number of species that associate with them. For instance, Common Tern numbers were drastically reduced to mere single digits, and Little Gull went from regular in summer to absent. Between New York and Vermont, jaegers have been uncommon yet annual on Lake Champlain, but none have been observed in the past two years.

Region 7 remains a reliable area to find Herring X Great Black-backed Gull hybrids, primarily at established gull congregations along Lake Champlain. It's been suspected that these hybrids originate from the gull nesting islands in the middle of Lake Champlain, such as the Four Brothers. On 20 August, an adult hybrid was observed at Noblewood Park accompanied by a begging juvenile.

A **Snowy Egret** reported from Cumberland Head was only the second summer record in the last ten years for Region 7 though there are records of multiple summer sightings in the same year prior to the advent of eBird.

**Grasshopper Sparrow** was reported from both Constable and the Whallon Bay areas. The former represents a new detection area, but perhaps not surprising given the abundance of habitat and lack of general observer coverage. The Whallon Bay area encompasses a large network of hayfields and pasture lands in private ownership totaling nearly 1000 acres in open fields. This area in the Town of Essex, where Whallons Bay Road meets Clark Road and Cross Road has been referred to in the past as the "Magic Triangle." Perhaps the "Essex Grasslands" is a more suitable descriptor of these ecologically important lands that now host a small breeding population of Grasshopper Sparrows and other more common, yet declining grassland specialists. Both summer sightings of Grasshopper Sparrow in Constable and Essex continue to add encouragement for this species.

Confirmation of breeding for **Palm Warbler** at Silver Lake Bog was a first for Clinton County. And for the second year in a row, Prairie Warbler was discovered on 20 June at Altona Flat Rock, this time involving three separate individuals, all of which were singing and apparently on territory. While the breeding code hasn't moved past "probable" all signs point to this location as the northernmost breeding area for this species in New York State, just 10 miles south of the Canada border. The jack pine dominated sandstone pavement barrens found at this location offers exceptional habitat for this species.



## CONTRIBUTORS

William Adamczak, Angelique Akin-Little, Elizabeth Axley, Karen Becker, Amy Bedard (ABd), Alan Belford (ABel), Brian Berg, Jeff Biby, Marian Bodine, Bekkah Bond, Gerald Cachon, Sean Camillieri, Chase Cammarota, Brad Carlson, Sean Carroll, David Cernack, Gary Chapin (GaC), Glen & Malinda Chapman, Anthony V. Ciancimino, Greg Dashnau, Bruce Dudek, Gino Ellison, Derek Eve, Brenden Fogearty, Elizabeth Frascatore, Ken & Carol Fredrick, Ellie George, Mark Gibson (MGi), Michale Glennon (MGI), Rich Hanlon, Stefano Ianiro, James Johnson (JJh), Suzy Johnson, Ellen Jones, Janelle Jones, Cindy Kindle, Bill Krueger, Gary Lee, Tristan Lowery, Samuel Lewis, Pat Lindsay (PJL), Nicolas Main, Nicholas Martin, Patricia Martin, Brian McAllister, Jay McGowan, Kevin McGrath, Paul McNamara, Dennis Meranda, Betsy Miner, Shaibal Mitra (SSM), Michael Moccio (MMo), Christopher Mortensen, Dan Nickerson, Raphael Nussbaumer, Nancy Olsen, Christian Pace, Mary Passage, Liam Pentangelo, Jonathan Putnam, Emily Reichert, Stacy Robinson, Paul Rodewald, Derek Rogers (DHR), Jennie Sausville (JSa), John Schenck (JSc), John Shea (JSh), Julia Sparks (JSp), Janet Stein (JSt), Noah Khanti Steinberg, Amanda Stickles, Jan Trzeciak, James Van Gelder, Alison Van Keuren, Connor Vara, Drew Weber, Eileen Wheeler, Kyle Williams.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**AFR** – Altona Flat Rock; **AM** – Ausable Marsh; **BB** – Bloomingdale Bog; **BLC** – Bald Ledge Club; **BRM** – Bouquet Ri Mouth; **CH** - Cumberland Head; **CN** – Constable; **CP** – Crown Pt; **CR** – Chazy Riverlands; **LCTM** – Lower La Chute Ticonderoga Marsh; **NP** – Noblewood P; **PC** – Putts Creek; **TRd** – Tracy Rd; **WMt** – Whiteface Mt; **WRS** – Webb Royce Swamp.

**Co-CF**, **-CN**, **-FL**, **-FY**, **-NE**, **-NB**, **-NY**, **-ON** –Atlas breeding codes (see page 415).

**Snow Goose:** Tupper L 9 Jun (ER), late.

**Mute Swan:** 2 Inlet 19 Jun (PR).

**Trumpeter Swan:** AFR 20 Jun (DHR).

**Wood Duck:** 42 LCTM 21 Jun (GaC), Co-FL.

**Blue-winged Teal:** CR 2 Jun (BK); 7 Shaw Pd 12 Jul (JVG), Co-FL.

**Northern Shoveler:** 3 CR 7 Jul (SSM, PJL).

**Gadwall:** Spruce Lodge Nature Trail 5 Aug (RH).

**American Wigeon:** 3 LCTM 30 Aug (G&MC).

**American Black Duck:** 9 St. Regis Falls 5 Aug (PMc), Co-FL.

**Green-winged Teal:** 4 AM 22 Aug (ABel), Co-FL.

**Ring-necked Duck:** 8 Paul Smiths Jul (EA), Co-FL.

**Greater Scaup:** CH 20 Aug (BK, SJ), early.

**Bufflehead:** NP 15 Aug (SR), early.

**Common Goldeneye:** 8 NP 11 Aug (SR).

**Hooded Merganser:** 9 TRd 21 Jun (SR), Co-FL.

**Common Merganser:** 4 CH 3 Jul (SJ, BK), Co-FL.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** 4 NP 3 Jun (DHR), late.

**Wild Turkey:** 12 Whallons Bay Rd 11 Aug (SR), Co-FL.

**Ruffed Grouse:** 3 Sabattis Circle 14 Jun (K&CF), Co-FL.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** 7 NP 15 Aug (SR).

**Pied-billed Grebe:** 4 Lake Alice WMA 2 Jul (ABd), Co-FL.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** 3 CLIN (Lake Alice WMA 1 Jul (ABd), Co-CF, photos.), 1 FRAN, 16 ESSE; *intro*.

**Black-bellied Cuckoo:** 2 Ellenburg Depot 3 Jun (SI).

**Common Nighthawk:** 7 AFR 13 Jun (ABd).

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** 4 Ellenburg 13 Jun (AS).

**Chimney Swift:** 7 CP 9 Jul (SR), Co-CN.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** 3 CN 2 Jul (TL).

**Virginia Rail:** Shaw Pd 6 Aug (MB), Co-FY.  
**Sora:** Ellenburg Depot 3 Jun (SI).

**Common Gallinule:** AM 8 Jun (SCam).

**Sandhill Crane:** 3 Oseetah Bog 10 Jun (MGI);  
3 Tupper L 15 Jun (SR), Co-FL.

**Black-bellied Plover:** 2 BRM 11 Aug (DHR).

**Killdeer:** 39 BRM 15 Aug (DHR), Co-FL.

**Semipalmated Plover:** NP 8 Jun (MGI).

**Sanderling:** NP 3 Aug (DHR).

**Dunlin:** Speculator 2 Jun (GD).

**Least Sandpiper:** CR 11 Jul (BK).

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** 2 AM 27 Aug (DHR).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** 40 NP 8 Jun (MGI).

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** CR 11 Jul (BK).

**American Woodcock:** 2 Tahawus Club 5 Aug (JP).

**Wilson's Snipe:** 5 Ellenburg Depot 1 Jun (SI).

**Spotted Sandpiper:** 8 Plattsburgh 16 Aug (KMc).

**Solitary Sandpiper:** Fred Carey Road 8 Jul (SR).

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** CR 21 Jul (BK).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** Clear Pd 14 Jul (JSa).

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 14 NP 15 Aug (SR);  
*intro*.

**Ring-billed Gull:** 53 NP 13 Jul (DHR), Co-FL.

**Herring Gull:** 4 Lower Saranac L 25 Jun (BF), Co-NE.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** 8 Saranac Ri  
Mouth 6 Aug (JJh).

**Herring X Great Black-backed Gull:** NP 28  
Jul & 20 Aug (SR, CC, DHR); BRM 24 Aug  
(DHR).

**Caspian Tern:** 43 NP 13 Jul (DHR), Co-FL.

**Black Tern:** 5 NP 23 Aug (DHR).

**Common Tern:** max 3 Point au Roche 10 Jun  
(GE).

**Common Loon:** 7 Dannemora 16 Jul (DE).

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 200 Point au  
Roche 10 Jun (GE).

**American Bittern:** TRd 30 Jun (SR), Co-CF.

**Least Bittern:** AM 3 Jun (JB).

**Great Blue Heron:** 35 Wadhams 24 Jun (EJ),  
Co-FY.

**Great Egret:** 5 PC 26 Jul (SR).

**Snowy Egret:** CH 3 Jul (BK).

**Green Heron:** 4 PC 26 Jul (SR), Co-FL.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** CR 22 Aug  
(ABel), Co-FL.

**Turkey Vulture:** 10 Willsboro Pt 21 Jul.

**Osprey:** 3 AM 22 Aug (ABel).

**Northern Harrier:** reps in all 4 counties.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** Osgood Ri 4 Jul (CV),  
Co-CF.

**Cooper's Hawk:** Bangor 15 Jul (ABel), Co-  
CF.

**Northern Goshawk:** 2 Debar P Rd Aug 20 (B.  
Bond, N. Main).

**Bald Eagle:** 2 Meacham L 26 Jun (EW), Co-  
NY.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** 2 AFR 20 Jun (DHR).

**Broad-winged Hawk:** TRd 3 Jul (SR), Co-CF.

**Red-tailed Hawk:** 2 AFR 20 Jun (DHR).

**Eastern Screech Owl:** AM 25 Aug (SR).

**Great Horned Owl:** 2 Essex 19 Aug (DW).

**Barred Owl:** 3 Taylor Pd Campground 29 Jun  
(AVK), Co-FL.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** Santanoni Peak 20  
Jul (BC), Co-FL.

**Belted Kingfisher:** Ensign Pd 28 Jun (SR),  
Co-CF.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** 3 AM 3 Jun (BK).

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** 3 Forestdale Rd 29  
Jun (AVK), Co-FY.

**Black-backed Woodpecker:** 3 BB 21 Jun  
(RH), Co-FL.

**Northern Flicker:** 5 AM 15 Jul (WA), Co-FL.

**Pileated Woodpecker:** 2 Port Henry 3 Aug (SR).

**American Kestrel:** 2 CN 4 Jul (DN), Co-FL.

**Merlin:** 2 Loon L 10 Jun (DN).

**Peregrine Falcon:** Pyramid L 8 Jul (EG), Co-FL.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** 7 PC 26 Jul (SR), Co-CF.

**Eastern Kingbird:** 6 AM 15 Jul (WA), Co-FL.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** 2 Minerva 4 Jul (KB), Co-CF.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** 2 Port Henry 18 Jul (SR), Co-NB.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** 6 WMt 3 Jun (KW).

**Alder Flycatcher:** 4 Moose Ri Plains 20 Jun (GL), Co-FY.

**Willow Flycatcher:** 4 BRM 11 Aug (DHR), Co-FL.

**Least Flycatcher:** 10 Spring Pd Bog 10 Jun (MP).

**Eastern Phoebe:** 6 BB 16 Aug (N. Martin).

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** 2 LCTM 21 Jun (GaC).

**Blue-headed Vireo:** 2 Port Henry 18 Jul (SR), Co-FY.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** Chapel Pd 12 Jun (S. Carroll).

**Warbling Vireo:** 4 LCTM 30 Jul (SR), Co-FL.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** 38 Algonquin Peak 17 Jun (RN).

**Canada Jay:** Sabattis Bog 14 Jun (GaC), Co-FL.

**Fish Crow:** 2 Speculator 3 Jun (GD); Wilcox Dock 11 Aug (NO); Wilcox Dock 26 Aug (J.Jones).

**Common Raven:** 4 Rainbow L 3 Jul (PR), Co-FL.

**Boreal Chickadee:** 9 Giant Mt 16 Aug (SL).

**Tufted Titmouse:** 4 BLC 29 Jun (G&MC), Co-CF.

**Horned Lark:** Malone 29 Jun (AA-L).

**Bank Swallow:** 6 PC 9 Jul (SR), Co-FY.

**Tree Swallow:** 40 AM 23 Jun (CM).

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** 20 LCTM 29 Jun (WA).

**Purple Martin:** 3 Elk Inn Rd 23 Jul (SR), Co-FL.

**Barn Swallow:** 4 North Hudson 30 Jun (SR), Co-NY.

**Cliff Swallow:** 2 CN 2 Jul (TL), Co-CF.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** 8 Algonquin Peak 17 Jun (RN).

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** 3 Minerva 26 Jun (BF), Co-CF.

**Cedar Waxwing:** 3 LCTM 21 Jun (GaC), Co-CN.

**Brown Creeper:** 5 BB 26 Jun (JMc), Co-FL.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** 2 NP 28 Jul (SR).

**House Wren:** 4 Saranac Lake 22 Jun (JSt), Co-NY.

**Winter Wren:** 9 Black Pd 28 Jun (BB), Co-FY.

**Marsh Wren:** 12 NP 30 Jul (SR), Co-FL.

**Carolina Wren:** 4 Hay Meadow Brook 21 Jul (G&MC), Co-FL.

**Gray Catbird:** Ensign Pd 28 Jun (SR), Co-CF.

**Brown Thrasher:** Bangor 29 Jun (ABel), Co-CF.

**Northern Mockingbird:** 2 Ticonderoga 22 Jul (G&MC), Co-CN.

**Veery:** 4 BB 1 Jun (JSc).

**Bicknell's Thrush:** 6 WMt 24 Jun (PMa); 10 WMt 3 Jul, Co-FL; 50 WMt 23 Jul (LP).

**Swainson's Thrush:** 11 WMt 3 Jul, Co-CF.

**Hermit Thrush:** 3 Elk Inn Rd 23 Jul (SR), Co-CN.

**Wood Thrush:** 3 Hay Meadow Brook 21 Jul (G&MC), Co-FL.

**Evening Grosbeak (type 3):** BB 19 Aug (DHR), photo & spectrogram.

**Purple Finch:** 4 TRd 26 Jun (SR), Co-CF.

**Red Crossbill:** 4 Moose Ri Plains 20 Jun (GL), Co-FL.

**American Goldfinch:** 4 WRS 15 Aug (SR), Co-CF.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** Whallons Bay Rd 1-3 Jun & 28 Jul (m. ob.); CN 4 & 5 Jun (TL).

**Chipping Sparrow:** 5 Owls Head 7 Jul (PR), Co-FL.

**Field Sparrow:** 8 AFR 20 Jun (DHR).

**White-crowned Sparrow:** Avalanche Pass 3 Jul (JSp), late.

**White-throated Sparrow:** Osgood Ri 20 Jun (JSt), Co-CF.

**Savannah Sparrow:** Bangor 29 Jun (ABel), Co-ON.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** BB 21 Jun (RH), Co-CF.

**Swamp Sparrow:** 5 Bartlett Pd 24 Jun (SR), Co-CF.

**Eastern Towhee:** 2 Ellensburg Depot 29 Jun (SI), Co-NY.

**Bobolink:** 7 Mooers 20 Jun (SR), Co-CF.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** Willsboro 22 Jul (DHR), Co-CF.

**Baltimore Oriole:** 4 BLC 29 Jun (G&MC), Co-CF.

**Rusty Blackbird:** 2 Madawaska Flow 22 Jun (AVC), Co-CF.

**Ovenbird:** 2 Wolf Pd 22 Jun (AVC), Co-CF.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** 4 LCTM 21 Jun (GaC), Co-FY.

**Northern Waterthrush:** Blue Mt Road 9 Jul (DC), Co-CN.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** CN 5 Jun (BMc); 3 CN 2 Jul (JSh), Co-FY.

**"Brewster's" Warbler:** WRS 3 Jun (DHR); Churubusco 6 Jun (SR).

**Black- and-white Warbler:** Sabattis Circle 14 Jun (K&CF), Co-CF.

**Tennessee Warbler:** 3 Port Henry 25 Aug (SR).

**Nashville Warbler:** 3 TRd 21 Jun (SR), Co-CF.

**Mourning Warbler:** 4 CN 2 Jul (TL), Co-FL.

**Common Yellowthroat:** Osgood Ri 20 Jun (JSt), Co-CF.

**American Redstart:** Burke 6 Jul (DN), Co-CF.

**Cape May Warbler:** 2 Minerva 14 Aug (GaC).

**Northern Parula:** 3 TRd 21 Jun (SR), Co-CF.

**Magnolia Warbler:** 4 Tomany Mt 3 Jul (CK), Co-FL.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** Minerva 15 Aug (GaC).

**Blackburnian Warbler:** 10 Wolf Pd 22 Jun (AVC), Co-CF.

**Yellow Warbler:** 6 AM 15 Jul (WA), Co-CF.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** Churubusco 20 Jun (SR), Co-CF.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** 10 WMT 24 Jun (PM).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** Gabriels 7 Jul (CP), Co-CF.

**Palm Warbler:** Silver Lake Bog 21 Jun (RH), Co-CF.

**Pine Warbler:** 3 CN 3 Jul (TL), Co-FY.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 2 Bad Luck Mt 26 Jun (BF), Co-FL.

**Prairie Warbler:** 3 Ticonderoga 11 Jun (SR); 3 AFR 20 Jun (DHR); 3 Oxbow L 20 Jun (EF).

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** Debraine L 30 Jun (BD), Co-CF.

**Canada Warbler:** 3 Bartlett Pd 16 Jul (SR), Co-FL.

**Wilson's Warbler:** Port Henry 26 & 28 Aug (SR).

**Scarlet Tanager:** LCTM 21 Jun (GaC), Co-FY.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** Mooers 20 Jun (SR), Co-CF.

**Indigo Bunting:** 6 BLC 23 Jul (G&MC), Co-CF.

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## REGION 8—HUDSON-MOHAWK

**Tom Williams**

153A Consaul Rd., Albany, NY 12205

trwdsd@fastmail.fm

June 2022 featured near-normal temperatures and a continuation of the dry conditions that had developed the month before. July was warmer than average in southern portions of the Region, with an ongoing precipitation deficit affecting the same area. August was very warm and humid, especially the first half of the month, but normal rainfall occurred, easing the prolonged dry spell.

	Albany			Glens Falls		
Temp	Mean	Normal	Deviation	Mean	Normal	Deviation
Jun	67.8°	68.5°	-0.7°	63.7°	65.0°	-1.3°
Jul	75.6°	73.1°	+2.5°	69.5°	69.7°	-0.2°
Aug	75.6°	71.4°	+4.2°	70.5°	67.8°	+2.7°

Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Jun	1.98"	4.05"	-2.07"	2.31"	3.72"	-1.41"
Jul	1.45"	4.55"	-3.10"	4.45"	4.26"	+0.19"
Aug	3.84"	3.76"	+0.08"	2.96"	3.48"	-0.52"

A pair of **Mississippi Kites** was discovered in a residential neighborhood in Country Knolls, Saratoga County, on 5 June. The initial observers were residents (and birders!) gardening in their yard who took a second look at the slender raptors soaring overhead and put a scope on them. Initially reported on social media, once an eBird checklist with photographs was submitted many observers inundated the quiet development, with a generally positive relationship between homeowners and birders. The birds were observed copulating, and proceeded to build a nest, but at some point, the nest was abandoned, and no juveniles were reported. The last sighting was on 9 August.

Daniel Schlaepfer observed and photographed a **Rufous Hummingbird** at a feeder in his yard on 5 August. His partner, NYBBA III project coordinator Julie Hart, was also able to see the tiny visitor.

A farmer in Hillsdale, Columbia County called a birder-friend about a strange duck in his pond that he couldn't identify. It was an apparently healthy **White-winged Scoter**, adult male, swimming around in the company of a dozen Canada Geese, an unusual summer observation of this species. Two **Sandhill Cranes** were sighted on 28 June in the same farm fields near Broadalbin, Saratoga County, where a pair raised two juveniles last season. John Kent found a **Stilt Sandpiper** at Stanton Pond in Albany County on 27 August, and the bird was seen the next day as well. Three **Black Terns** were sighted flying around Duane Lake in Schenectady County on 21 August. An adult **Little Blue Heron** was found near a small pond in Ghent, Columbia County on 9 July. A single **Glossy Ibis** was viewed flying around the area of Lock 2 on the Champlain Canal near Mechanicville on 19 August.

A pair of **Red-headed Woodpeckers** was observed flying around a residential neighborhood in South Glens Falls, Warren County, for at least ten days. The birds were first reported on 14 June. An **Acadian Flycatcher** was briefly observed singing in Hoosick Falls, Rensselaer County on 12 June. **Bicknell's Thrush**, as many as six at a time, was reported from the high peaks of the Catskill Mountains of Greene County during June and July. Slide Mountain, Plateau Mountain, Hunter Mountain, and Black Dome Mountain all recorded resident birds.

205 species were reported during the period.



## CONTRIBUTORS

Larry Alden, Susan Beaudoin, Mike Birmingham, Nancy Castillo, Gary Chapin, Glen & Malinda Chapman, Steve Chorvas, Jeremy Collison, Bill Cook, Brianna Denoncour, Alan Devoe Bird Club recent sightings, Amanda Dillon, David DiSiena, Craig Driggs, Bruce Dudek, Alan Dupuis, Lindsey Duval, Scott Fackenthall, Larry Federman, Debra Ferguson, Mark Fitzsimmons, Rich Guthrie, HMBirds Groups.io, Larry & Barbara Hall, David Halm, David Harrison, Julie Hart, Ron Harrower, John Hershey, John Kent, Nancy Kern, Bill Lee, Naomi Lloyd, Tristan Lowery, Larry Main, Alan Mapes, Leigh McBride, Thom McClenahan, Steve Mesick, Joyce Miller, Frank Mitchell, Frank Murphy, Jenny Murtaugh, Ellen Pemrick, Will Raup, Gregg Recer & Cathy Graichen, Neal Reilly, Stacy Robinson, John Roosenberg, Jeanette Roundy, Daniel Schlaepfer, Kathy Schneider, Zach Schwartz-Weinstein, John Shea, Marian Sole, George Steele, Larry Steele, Scott Stoner, Craig Thompson, Alison Van Keuren, Rich White, Tom & Colleen Williams, Will Yandik, Robert Yunick.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**APBP** – Albany Pine Bush Pres, ALBA; **AR** – Alcove Res, ALBA; **BCM** – Black Creek Marsh, ALBA; **BCR** – Basic Creek Res, ALBA; **BMB** – Bog Meadow Brook Nature Trail, SARA; **CCGP** – Coxsackie Creek Grasslands Pres, GREE; **CF** – Cohoes Flats, ALBA; **CL** – Collins L, SCHE; **CRM** – Cline Rd Marsh, FULT; **FR** – Five Rivers EEC, ALBA; **FtEG** – Fort Edward Grasslands, WASH; **FV** – Franklinton Vlaie, SCHO; **HP** – Huyck Pres, ALBA; **OCA** – Ooms Conservation Area, COLU; **PRWMA** – Partridge Run WMA, ALBA; **SNHP** – Saratoga National Historical P, SARA; **TR** – Tomhannock Res, RENN; **VFNHP** – Vischer Ferry Nature & Historic Pres, SARA; **WMP** – Wilson M. Powell Wildlife Sanctuary, COLU.

**Canada Goose:** max 248 Lock 2, Halfmoon SARA 29 Jul.

**Mute Swan:** max 7 BCR 1 Jun.

**Wood Duck:** max 90 Carlisle SCHO 16 Aug, Stanton Pd ALBA 28 Aug.

**Blue-winged Teal:** max 13 Argyle WASH 31 Jul.

**Gadwall:** max 4 Stanton Pd ALBA 21 Aug.

**American Wigeon:** max 2 BMB 10 Aug.

**Mallard:** max 187 Rexford SARA 30 Aug.

**American Black Duck:** max 35 Cohoes ALBA 19 Aug.

**Green-winged Teal:** max 5 Stanton Pd ALBA 28 Aug.

**Ring-necked Duck:** Bolton Landing WARR 21 Jun.

**White-winged Scoter:** Hillsdale COLU 7 Jul.

**Hooded Merganser:** max 14 Brant L WARR 11 Jun, hen w/ 13 juv.

**Common Merganser:** max 31 Ashland GREE 31 Jul.

**Wild Turkey:** max 56 Hague WARR 29 Aug.

**Ruffed Grouse:** max 13 Stony Creek WARR 5 Aug.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** Little York Rd Wetland SCHO 5 Jun; Wilton Wildlife Pres SARA 14 Jun; Fish Creek SARA 17 Jun.

**Rock Pigeon:** max 200 Malta SARA 23 Jul.

**Mourning Dove:** max 44 Bethlehem ALBA 31 Aug.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** max 6 Inman Pd  
WASH 22 Jul.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** max 2 mult loc.

**Common Nighthawk:** 58 Ghent COLU 18  
Aug; 40 Saratoga Casino SARA 19 Aug; 38  
Henry Hudson P ALBA 20 Aug; 54 APBP 24  
Aug; 78 Delmar ALBA 25 Aug.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** max 3 nr Stanton Pd  
ALBA 15 Jul.

**Chimney Swift:** max 50 Burden Pd RENS 16  
Jul.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** max 14 Berne  
ALBA 28 Aug.

**RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD:** Delmar ALBA  
5 Aug, photographed at feeder, *intro*.

**Virginia Rail:** max 6 Amy's P WARR 30 Jul.

**Sora:** Drowned Lands Swamp Cons Area  
COLU 6 Jun; 2 Duaneburg SCHE 3 Jul;  
Clemons Marsh WASH 22 Aug.

**Common Gallinule:** max 8 Duaneburg SCHE  
2 Aug.

**Sandhill Crane:** 2 Broadalbin FULT 28 Jun.

**Black-bellied Plover:** 5 CF 2 Jun; CF 7 Aug; 2  
CF 23 Aug.

**Killdeer:** max 43 Stanton Pd ALBA 27 Aug;  
30 The Crossings ALBA 29 Jun; 32 CF 7 Aug.

**Semipalmated Plover:** max 15 CF 5 Jun.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** Stanton Pd ALBA 27-28  
Aug.

**Sanderling:** 2 CF 7 Jun; 2 CF 16 Aug.

**Dunlin:** CF 1 Jun.

**Least Sandpiper:** max 30 Stanton Pd ALBA  
27 Aug.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** CF 5 Aug.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 78 CF 5 Jun.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** 2 CF 2 Jun.

**American Woodcock:** max 4 Dyken Pd RENS  
15 Jun.

**Wilson's Snipe:** max 4 Ft Plain MONT 7 Jun.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** max 5 CF 30 Jun.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** max 6 FR 2 Aug.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 14 CF 7 Aug.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** max 6 CF 20 Aug.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 2 Bob & Betty  
Cummings Mem P WASH 7 Aug.

**Ring-billed Gull:** max 771 CF 7 Aug, high  
count.

**Herring Gull:** max 22 Lock 2, Halfmoon  
SARA 21 Aug.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** 9 CF 23 Aug.

**Caspian Tern:** max 10 Bob & Betty  
Cummings Mem P WASH 23 Aug.

**Black Tern:** 3 Duane L SCHE 21 Aug.

**Common Loon:** max 8 Garnet L WARR 24  
Jun.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** max 60 TR 6 Jul.

**American Bittern:** max 2 mult loc.

**Least Bittern:** Knox Wetland ALBA 4 Jun; 3  
BCM 8 Jun; Tygert Rd, Vly Creek Marsh  
ALBA 15 Jun; CRM 20 Jul; 4 VFNHP 28 Jul;  
5 Clemons Marsh WASH 22 Aug.

**Great Blue Heron:** max 32 VFNHP 21 Jul.

**Great Egret:** max 22 VFNHP 4 Aug.

**Snowy Egret:** Falls View P ALBA 19-31 Aug.

**Little Blue Heron:** Ghent COLU 9 Jul.

**Green Heron:** max 15 Ghent COLU 20 Jun.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** Albany ALBA  
12 Jun; Clemons Marsh WASH 21 Aug; TR 27  
Aug.

**Glossy Ibis:** Lock 2, Champlain Canal near  
Mechanicville on 19 August.

**Black Vulture:** max 8 Coeymans ALBA 23  
Jul.

**Turkey Vulture:** max 45 Cobleskill SCHO 31  
Aug.

**Osprey:** max 5 Mechanicville SARA 26 Jul.

**Northern Harrier:** max 3 Altamont ALBA 26  
Jul; Clemons Marsh WASH 27 Aug.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** max 2 mult loc.

**Cooper's Hawk:** max 3 mult loc.

**Bald Eagle:** max 9 Germantown COLU 16  
Aug.

**MISSISSIPPI KITE:** pair Country Knolls,  
Clifton P SARA 5 Jun-9 Aug, *NYSARC, intro*.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** max 8 Clemons  
Marsh WASH 21 Aug.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** max 5 Summit SCHO  
28 Aug.

**Red-tailed Hawk:** max 7 Catskill GREE 14  
Jul.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** max 3 Canajoharie  
MONT 6 Jul.

**Great Horned Owl:** max 3 mult loc.

**Barred Owl:** max 5 Hunter GREE 11 Jun.

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** Ft Ann WASH 6 Jul; Hunter Mt GREE 24 Jul.

**Belted Kingfisher:** max 4 mult loc.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 2 Chatham COLU 12 Jun; 2 S Glens Falls SARA 15 Jun.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** max 10 Hillsdale COLU 27 Jul.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** max 18 HP 10 Jul.

**Downy Woodpecker:** max 9 Kenrose Pres ALBA 26 Jun.

**Hairy Woodpecker:** max 5 mult loc.

**Northern Flicker:** max 12 APBP 16 Aug.

**Pileated Woodpecker:** max 5 mult loc.

**American Kestrel:** max 18! Sprakers MONT 25 Jul, *high count*.

**Merlin:** max 5 Ballston SARA 12 Jul.

**Peregrine Falcon:** max 5 Riverfront P RENS 15 Jun.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** max 7 Wilton Wildlife Pres SARA 6 Jun.

**Eastern Kingbird:** max 8 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 8 Aug.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** max 3 Clemons Marsh WASH 21 Aug; breeding season reps confined to WARR and WASH.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** max 15 Peebles I SP SARA 27 Aug.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** max 4 Hunter Mt GREE 14 Jun.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** Hoosick Falls RENS 12 Jun, only report.

**Alder Flycatcher:** max 5 mult loc.

**Willow Flycatcher:** max 20 BCM 11 Jun.

**Least Flycatcher:** max 9 Bolton Cons P WARR 21 Jun.

**Eastern Phoebe:** max 9 Willie Wildlife Marsh Tr FULT 2 Aug.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** max 6 BMB 24 Jun.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** max 7 Amy's P WARR 26 Jul.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** max 2 Hague WARR 14 Aug.

**Warbling Vireo:** max 18 Zim Smith Tr SARA 2 Jun.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** max 34 Hunter Mt GREE 11 Jul.

**Blue Jay:** max 22 APBP 24 Aug.

**American Crow:** max 100 Dutchman's Landing GREE 11 Aug.

**Fish Crow:** max 80 APBP 27 Aug.

*The Kingbird* 2022 December; 72 (4)

**Common Raven:** max 15 Charlton SARA 20 Jul.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** max 80 Cherry Plain SP RENS 24 Aug.

**Tufted Titmouse:** max 24 Woods Hollow NP SARA 30 Jul.

**Horned Lark:** no reports.

**Bank Swallow:** max 68 Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 14 Aug.

**Tree Swallow:** max 600 Ghent COLU 27 Jul.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** max 105 Grafton RENS 17 Jul.

**Purple Martin:** max 21 Saratoga Waterfront P SARA 16 Jul.

**Barn Swallow:** max 75 Nassau RENS 22 Jul.

**Cliff Swallow:** max 50 Fultonville MONT 8 Aug.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** single birds at mult loc.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** max 12 Plateau Mt GREE 7 Jul.

**Cedar Waxwing:** max 130 Wilton Wildlife Pres SARA 1 Jun.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** max 45 Hunter Mt GREE 8 Jul.

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** max 16 Shenantaha Creek P SARA 20 Aug.

**Brown Creeper:** max 7 Rush Pd WARR 15 Aug.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** max 6 VFNHP 21 Jun.

**Carolina Wren:** max 7 Henry Hudson P ALBA 20 Jul.

**House Wren:** max 8 mult loc.

**Winter Wren:** max 11 Plateau Mt GREE 7 Jul.

**Sedge Wren:** no reports.

**Marsh Wren:** max 20 BCM 6 Jun.

**Gray Catbird:** max 45 VFNHP 17 Jun.

**Brown Thrasher:** max 5 APBP 13 Jun.

**Northern Mockingbird:** max 11 The Crossings ALBA 25 Jun.

**European Starling:** max 500 Stanton Pd ALBA 28 Aug.

**Eastern Bluebird:** max 25 Landis Arboretum SCHO 27 Aug.

**Veery:** max 20 Schodack I SP RENS 20 Jun.

**Bicknell's Thrush:** max 4 Hunter Mt GREE 18 Jun; 4 Plateau Mt GREE 3 Jul.

**Swainson's Thrush:** max 19 Plateau Mt GREE 7 Jul; 19 Hunter Mt GREE 8 Jul.

**Hermit Thrush:** max 14 Hunter Mt GREE 8 Jul.

**Wood Thrush:** max 14 Schodack I SP RENS 16 Jul.

**American Robin:** max 100 Duaneburg SCHE 22 Aug.

**House Sparrow:** max 50 Curtis Lumber, Ballston Spa SARA 20 Jul.

**Evening Grosbeak:** max 5 Padanarum Rd WARR 13 Aug.

**House Finch:** max 22 Colonie Mohawk River P ALBA 14 Aug.

**Purple Finch:** max 4 mult loc.

**Red Crossbill:** max 12 Rensselaerville SF ALBA 24 Jun.

**Pine Siskin:** max 3 Hunter Mt GREE 8 Jul.

**American Goldfinch:** max 50 Landis Arboretum SCHO 27 Aug.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** 3 Overmountain Cons Area East COLU 8 Jul; 3 Glens Falls Feeder Canal Tr WARR 4 Jul; 3 Michael Pitney Tr SARA 27 Jun; 2 Albany Int Arpt ALBA 12 Jun; 2 Ancram

**Chipping Sparrow:** max 31 Wilton Wildlife Pres SARA 28 Aug.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** 3 Ft Plain MONT 8 Jul; Roeliff Jansen P COLU 3 Jun; APBP 1-2 Jun.

**Field Sparrow:** max 20 SNHP 25 Aug.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** max 20 Hunter Mt GREE 18 Jun.

**White-throated Sparrow:** max 7 Edinburg SARA 8 Jun.

**Vesper Sparrow:** max 3 Greenwich WASH 24 Jun.

**Savannah Sparrow:** max 14 Roeliff Jansen P COLU 29 Jun.

COLU 24 Jun; 2 Mayfield FULT 25 Jun; 2

Saratoga Co Arpt 26 Jun.

**Song Sparrow:** max 37 VFNHP 7 Jul.

**Swamp Sparrow:** max 25 VFNHP 7 Jun; 25 BCM 11 Jun.

**Eastern Towhee:** max 16 APBP 11 Jun.

**Bobolink:** max 50 OCA 14 Jun.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** max 11 Hoosick RENS 16 Jun.

**Orchard Oriole:** max 5 OCA 3 Jul.

**Baltimore Oriole:** max 17 Grafton RENS 2 Jul.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** max 1000 Schoharie Crossing Boat Launch MONT 16 Aug.

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** max 40 Colonie ALBA 9 Aug.

**Common Grackle:** max 250 Glenville SCHE 14 Aug.

**Ovenbird:** max 29! John Boyd Thacher SP North ALBA 7 Jul.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** max 4 Deer Mt Nature Tr ALBA 24 Jun.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** max 4 John Boyd Thacher SP Overlook ALBA 19 Jun.

**Northern Waterthrush:** max 3 BMB 14 Jun; 3 VFNHP 10 Jul.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** 2 Clemons Marsh WASH 31 Jul; one Putnam Sta WASH 4 Jun; one Whitehall WASH 10 Jun; one Schaghticoke RENS 22 Aug.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** max 6 Claverack COLU 20 Jun.

**"Brewster's" Warbler:** Queensbury Wash 19 Jun; Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 30 Jul.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** max 12 Swede Mt WARR 10 Jun.

**Tennessee Warbler:** last spring Mayfield FULT 5 Jun; first fall Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 3 Aug.

**Nashville Warbler:** max 5 Amy's P WARR 3 Jun.

**Mourning Warbler:** max 5 Silver Hollow Rd GREE 19 Jun.

**Common Yellowthroat:** max 29 SNHP 2 Jun.

**Hooded Warbler:** max 3 Overmountain Cons Area East COLE 17 Jul.

**American Redstart:** max 20 Schodack I SP RENS 8 Jun.

**Cape May Warbler:** first fall Bob & Betty Cummings Mem P WASH 7 Aug; max 2 mult loc.

**Cerulean Warbler:** max 4 Schodack I SP RENS 8 Jun.

**Northern Parula:** max 2 mult loc.

**Magnolia Warbler:** max 13 Plateau Mt GREE 3 Jul.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** first fall Putnam WASH 20 Aug.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** max 14 Plateau Mt GREE 9 Jul.

**Yellow Warbler:** max 30 VFNHP 7 Jun.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** max 14  
Overmountain Cons Area East COLU 8 Jul.  
**Blackpoll Warbler:** max 21 Plateau Mt GREE  
7 Jul.  
**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** max 18  
Edinburg SARA 8 Jun.  
**Palm Warbler:** no reports.  
**Pine Warbler:** max 13 Wilton Wildlife Pres  
SARA 28 Aug.  
**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** max 43 Hunter Mt  
GREE 8 Jul.  
**Prairie Warbler:** max 10 APBP 5 Jun.  
**Black-throated Green Warbler:** max 13  
Hunter Mt GREE 8 Jul.

**Canada Warbler:** max 4 Edinburg SARA 1  
Jun; 4 Hague WARR 1 Jun; 4 Deep Notch  
GREE 4 Jul; 4 Schaghticoke RENS 11 Aug.  
**Wilson's Warbler:** first fall John Boyd  
Thacher SP ALBA 19 Aug.  
**Scarlet Tanager:** max 6 mult loc.  
**Northern Cardinal:** max 19 Rexford SARA  
29 Aug.  
**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** max 7 Grafton  
RENS 4 Jul.  
**Indigo Bunting:** max 8 Overmountain Cons  
Area East COLU 8 Jul.



## REGION 9—HUDSON-DELAWARE

**John H. Haas**

98 North Shore Dr., Wurtsboro, NY 12790  
vanhaas@citlink.net

June started off cool and wet with thunderstorms. There was a high of 90° F on 26 June and a low of 45° on 20 June. The average temperature was 67.4°, 1° below normal. There was a total of 2.45" of precipitation, 1.45" below normal. July was much warmer with a high of 97° on three dates 20-23 July and a low of 52° 10 July for an average monthly temperature of 76.2°, 2.6° above normal. There was a total of 1.25" of precipitation, 2.53" below normal. All of this made for a hot dry month. August continued the trend with a high of 99° on 4 August and a low of 51° on 13 August for an average of 76.8°, 5.1° above normal. There was a total of 1.08" of precipitation, 3.21" below normal, very hot and dry.

On 17 August, Renee Davis was invited to a friend's home to view the tremendous number of hummingbirds coming to his feeders. Renee and he were able to count a minimum of 30 birds coming, though there could have been more. This was the highest report I've received in some time.

On 8 August Patty Kiersten spotted an unusual hummingbird feeding in her garden. She took several photos and confirmed the ID on the internet. Though an attempt to band the bird failed, enough photos of its spread tail were obtained to confirm the identification. The bird proved to be a hatch year female **Rufous Hummingbird**. The bird remained through 11 August.

Jarvis Shirkey intently watched as a flock of large shorebirds circled and landed in a local pond. He had never seen these birds before but quickly identified them and realized just how rare they were. He photographed the record-setting 11 **American Avocets** and alerted a few local birders to help have the birds

confirmed, but due to their location was unable to make them further known to the public. They remained just the day.

On 23 August Linda Scrima was on the platform at Liberty Loop when many Great Egrets flew in from the New Jersey side of the refuge. She was surprised to see a large shorebird trailing the flock. As the bird neared, it became clear it was the **Marbled Godwit** that had been reported earlier on New Jersey side.

On 29 July Ari Weiss was amazed to come upon a hatch year **Piping Plover** at Piermont Pier! This is a first record for Region 9 and an outstanding find by Ari! The bird continued through 31 August.

On 2 June Ari Weiss came upon a **Willet** at Piermont Pier. This is a rare inland record for this time of year. Another Willet (a Western Willet) was found with a flock of American Avocet on 30 August in Orange County.

The author was kayaking Morningside Lake the morning of 15 August when an interesting shorebird shot past him. Thankfully, the bird returned almost immediately and proved to be a juvenile **Red-necked Phalarope**, only the second record for Sullivan County. The bird remained for two days, entertaining all who sought it out.

On 23 July the author found a **Lesser Black-backed Gull** on the Newburgh Waterfront among the Ring-billed Gulls that assemble there. Only the second July record for Region 9, the bird was seen again several days later with one additional record in August.

Once again, this summer, Caspian Terns have been reported in significant numbers along the Hudson River. There were reports from too many locations to include them all in the report.

On 23 July David Harrison spotted a Forster's Tern on the mud flats at Piermont Pier; up to three birds were seen in the next several days, an excellent find for Rockland County.

On 20 July Ari Weiss was shown a photo of a bird seen by Isaac Ruschak on Blauvelt Road in Rockland County. He identified it as an **Anhinga**. The bird was relocated by Ari the following morning, enabling many to see this extreme rarity which remained through 31 August and beyond.

The **Neotropic Cormorant** found by Bruce Nott at the end of the last period was again seen by Bruce late in the day on 1 June. The bird moved back and forth across the Hudson River between Orange and Dutchess Counties and could be difficult to find at times. It continued at least through the end of the period and was probably the most seen bird in the Region.

On 19 July Ari Weiss noticed a large white heron on the pedestrian bridge at Piermont Pier. It turned out to in fact be a Great White Heron, the white form of the Great Blue Heron, extremely rare in New York. It remained throughout the period.

On 29 August Tom Warren found a juvenile **White Ibis** at the Landing in Dobbs Ferry. Unfortunately, the bird took flight shortly afterward and was not found again.

On 10 July Ari Weiss spotted a **Glossy Ibis** on the mud flats at Piermont Pier. Robert Miller found another Glossy Ibis on Hurley Mountain Road on 22 July, a most unexpected location. There were several additional reports during the period.

On 9 June David Deleo spotted an unusual flycatcher at Stony Kill Farm EEC in Dutchess County. Barbara Michelin was notified and identified the bird as a **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**. The bird continued through the following day but was not seen thereafter.

On 17 June David Warne was birding the mound at Croton Point Park when he came upon a shrike. The bird was ultimately determined to be a **Loggerhead Shrike** and continued to be seen throughout the day. It could not be located the following morning. In a remarkable follow up to the story, Larry Trachtenberg found another or perhaps even the same Loggerhead Shrike at the same location on 2 August, again present for just the day.

Marge Gorton was surprised to look at her feeders on the morning of 19 August and see a beautiful male **Evening Grosbeak** feeding on sunflower seeds. Another, or perhaps the same bird, was reported just a few miles away two days later. They are extremely rare in the summer.

On 31 August Tom Warren found a Lark Sparrow at Rockefeller State Park in Westchester County. This was the first record for the park. Though well photographed, the bird was not seen thereafter.

On 18 June Dennis Wareham made an unexpected find in his back yard, a **Clay-colored Sparrow**. He was able to alert some local birders and they viewed the bird through 20 June.

On 16 June Lisa Scheppke photographed a male **Blue Grosbeak** on the mound at Croton Point Park. Though not spotted the following day, it was seen on the 18<sup>th</sup>, but not thereafter.

On 9 June Ronnie DiLorenzo was searching for sparrows when she spotted a singing male **Dickcissel** at the Sunflower Farm in the Orange County Black Dirt Region. The bird continued through 19 June, when unfortunately, the fields were mowed.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Julien Amsellem (JAM), Theodore Anderson, John Askildsen (JAs), Seth Ausubel, Scott Baldinger, Kyle Bardwell, Nigel Bark, Gail Benson (GBen), Ginger Bernardin (GBer), Tom Burke, Sean Camillieri, Chris Chappell (CCh), Jeanne Cimorelli, Chris Cording (CCo), Renee Davis (RDa), Steve Decker, David DeLeo, Joyce Depew, Ronnie DiLorenzo (RDi), Claudius Feger, Andy Gershon, Marge Gorton, Scott Graber, Jane Graves, John Haas (JHaa), John Hannan (JHan), David Harrison, Jesse Harrison (JHar), Tait Johansson, Cade Kaminsky, Chris Kennelly, Patty Kiersten, Kyle Knapp, Aimee LaBarr, Linda LaBella, Karalyn Lamb, Stu Landesberg, Moe Lehmann, Scott Lenhart, Anthony Macchiarola (Ama), Ryan MacLean, Karen Malloy-Brady, Patrick Markee, Kenneth McDermott (KMcd), Kevin McGrath (KMcG), Matt Medler, Arnie  
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Meier (AMe), Leon Meintjes, Barbara Michelin, Karen Miller (KMi), R Miller, Krista Munger, Bruce Nott, LouAnn O'Hora, Vinny Pellegrino, Linda Pistolesi, Steve Rappaport, Charlie Roberto, Joe Rothstein, Lynn Salmon, Larry Scacchetti, Lisa Scheppke, Peter Schoenberger, Linda Scrima, Barbara Strobino, Anne Swaim, Barbara Thomascall, Larry Trachtenberg, Dennis Trapnell, Debbie van Zyl, David Villa, Joe Wallace, Susan Ward, Dennis Wareham (DWare), David Warne (DWarn), Tom Warren, Ari Weiss (AWei), Alan Wells (AWel), Sandra Wright, Matthew Zeitler.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**BSWMA** – Bashakill State WMA, SULL; **BW** – Beacon Waterfront, DUTC; **CPP** – Croton Pt P, WEST; **CRS** – Croton Railroad Station, WEST; **EGR** – Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, WEST; **GV** – Great Vly WMA, ULST; **MC** – Marshlands Conservancy, WEST; **MF** – Muscoot Farm, WEST; **MP** – Morningside P, SULL; **NCR** – New Croton Res, WEST; **NR** – Neversink Res, SULL; **NW** – Newburgh Waterfront, ORAN; **OCBDR** – Orange County Black Dirt Region, ORAN; **OMRLMSP** – Ogden Mills and Ruth Livingston Mills SP, DUTC; **PHP** – Peach Hill P, DUTC; **PITN** – Pine I Turf Nursery, ORAN; **PP** – Piermont Pier, ROCK; **RL** – Rhinecliff Landing, DUTC; **RLSP** – Rockland L SP, ROCK; **RR** – Rondout Res, SULL; **RSP** – Rockefeller SP, WEST; **SFSP** – Sterling Forest SP, ORAN; **SGNWR** – Shawangunk Grasslands NWR, ULST; **SHSR** – Six and a Half Station Rd, ORAN; **SS** – Sleightsburg Spit, ULST; **SSF** – Stewart State Forest, ORAN; **VFEP** – Vassar Farms and Ecological Pres, DUTC; **WFPF** – West Point Foundry Pres, PUTN; **WRNWR** – Wallkill Ri NWR, ORAN; **ws reps** – widespread reports.

**Brant:** 3 PP 7 Jun (AWei).

**Gadwall:** PP 28 Jul (LS).

**Ring-necked Duck:** WRNWR 12 Jun – 17 Jul (KK, mob).

**Lesser Scaup:** 28 Jun (GBen, TB).

**Northern Bobwhite:** Maple Ridge ULST 10-11 Jun (AMe, mob).

**Ruffed Grouse:** Flynn Rd SULL 3 Jun (SB); Minnewaska SP ULST 5 Jun (RM).

**Common Nighthawk:** CPP 5 Jun (CK); Wolf Brook SULL 7 Jun (KMi).

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** Fahnestock PUTN 4 Jun (JY); McDonald Rd SULL 6 Jun (JHaa); max 2 Pine Kill Rd SULL 1-25 Jun (JHaa, mob); max 7 Harriman SP 1-17 Jun (DP, mob); max 3 SFSP 8-13 Jun (RDJ, JC).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** max 30 Grahamsville SULL 17 Aug (RDa), *intro*.

**RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD:** 8-11 Aug (PK, mob), *intro*.

**Clapper Rail:** max 6 MC 3 Jun-31 Aug (GBen, mob).

**Sandhill Crane:** max 2 WRNWR 1 Jun-4 Aug (KK, mob); 2 Hurley Mt Rd ULST 8 Jul, 2 Aug (PS, RM); 2 SHSR 25 Aug (KA).

**AMERICAN AVOCET (R9):** 11 Gibson Hill Rd ORAN 30 Aug (JS, mob), *intro*.

**American Oystercatcher:** max 5 MC 1 Jun-2 Aug (GBen, mob); max 7 EGR 1 Jun-30 Jul (GBen, mob).

**Black-bellied Plover:** PP 29 Jul-21 Aug (BN, mob); max 4 OCBDR 6 Aug (MZ, LS); 2 Cornwall Bay ORAN 8 Aug (BN, JC); MC 8-10 Aug (SCam, mob); OCBDR 22 Aug (LS).



**American Golden-Plover:** max 4 OCBDR 26-30 Aug (JC, mob).

**Semipalmated Plover:** max 11 PP 1-3 Jun (AWei); Rt 747/84 Swamp ORAN 5 Jun (BN); 4 Cornwall Bay 2 Jun (BN); CPP 5 Jun (CK); max 12 MC 26 Jul-5 Aug (GBen, mob); max 8 PP 28 Jul-5 Aug (AWei, mob); max 2 MP 3-4 Aug (JHaa).

**PIPING PLOVER (R9):** PP 29-31 Jul (AWei, mob), *intro*.

**Upland Sandpiper:** SGNWR 30 Jul (SL); OCBDR 5 Aug (MZ, LS).

**Whimbrel:** 2 PP 1 Aug (AWei).

**Marbled Godwit:** WRNWR 23, 26 Aug (LS, JC), *intro*.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** CPP 5 Jun (CK); PP 2, 7 Jun (KL, mob); max 4 PP 24 Jul-3 Aug (LP, mob); Cornwall Bay 25 Aug (JC, mob).

**Stilt Sandpiper:** PP 11 Aug (ML); PP 20 Aug (LP, CCo); Hillside L DUTC 25-27 Aug (AMa, mob).

**Sanderling:** max 3 28 Jul-4 Aug (LS, mob); PP 26, 30 Aug (CCo, AWei); The Landing Dobbs Ferry WEST 20 Aug (JR).

**Dunlin:** 2 PP 3 Jun (AWei, LP).

**Baird's Sandpiper:** 2 PITN 22 Aug (LS); Orange Harbor Square P WEST 26-27 Aug (LT, mob); max 2 Ossining WEST 29-30 Aug (LT, mob).

**Least Sandpiper:** GV 3 Jun (PS); 3 PP 3 Jun (AWei); max 25 PP 29 Jul (AWei, mob); 70 Swan L SULL 22 Aug (JHaa).

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** PP 7 Jun (AWei); Camel Farm ORAN 11 Jun (MZ, mob); PP 27-26 Aug (JC, mob).

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** OCBDR 29-31 Aug (AWei, mob).

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** max 8 PP 29 Jul-1 Aug (JG, mob); max 2 Hillside L DUTC 25-27 Aug (BM, mob); ws reps.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 40 PP 14 Jul-5 Aug (AWei, mob); max 25 MC 25 Jul-5 Aug (JAm, mob).

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** max 6 PP 18 Jul-25 Aug (AWei, mob); EGR 13 Aug (SCam, SR); 6 MP 15 Aug (MZ, JH); 6 MC 17 Aug (LM); Pell Lane ULST 20 Aug (DWare, mob); PITN 22 Aug (RDi, mob).

**Wilson's Snipe:** PP 26 Jul (KL); Haverstraw ROCK 2 Aug (MG); GV 20-26 Aug (PS); MP 23-30 Aug (JHaa).

**Willet:** max 6 MC 1 Jun-31 Aug (GBen, mob); PP 2 Jun (AWei); CPP 2 Jun (LT); Gibson Hill Rd (JS, mob), *intro*.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** MP 15-16 Aug (JH, mob), *intro*.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** Dennings Pt DUTC 1 Jun (MM); 8 SS 15 Jul (PS); RL 24 Jul (JAs); 4 SS 31 Jul (PS); PP 1 Aug (AWei); EGR 13 Aug (SCam, SR).

**Laughing Gull:** max 3 PP 3-4 Jun (AWei, mob); PP 15 Jul (AWei); max 3 PP 19 Jul-1 Aug (AWei, mob); CRS 5, 8 Aug (SCam, BS); Cornwall Bay 16 Aug (BN, JC).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** NW 23,26 Jul (JHaa, BN); MacEachron Waterfront P WEST 7 Aug (JAm).

**Least Tern:** max 5 MC 3 Jun-31 Jul (GBen, mob); EGR 4-7 Jul (GBen, mob).

**Caspian Tern:** CPP 22 Jun (SP, KL); MC 30 Jun (GBen, TB); max 12 PP 18 Jul-20 Aug (AWei, mob); max 15 Cornwall Bay 6-21 Aug (MZ, mob); 2 CRS 8 Aug (SCam, BS); 3 Matthiessen P WEST 8 Aug (KMcG), *intro*.

**Black Tern:** max 2 BW 22 Aug (KB, DvZ); 2 Newburgh ORAN (JC).

**Common Tern:** 2 EGR 3-6 Jun (KMcG, mob); PP 28 Jun (AWei, TW).

**Forster's Tern:** max 4 MC 1-3 Jun (GBen, mob); max 3 PP 23-28 Jul (DH, mob).

**Common Loon:** 2 NR 1-3 Jun (JHaa, KMi); Swan L SULL 2 Jun (JHaa); EGR 3 Jun (GBen, mob); 2 CPP 5 Jun (CK); Minnewaska ULST 8 Jun (SB); max 2 KL 19-24 Jun (SG, mob); 2 Rondout Res ULST 24 Jun (SCam).

**ANHINGA:** Orangeburg ROCK 20 Jul through end of period (AWei, mob), *intro*.

**NEOTROPIC CORMORANT:** NW 1 Jun-31 Aug (BN, mob), BW 1-2 Jun, 3 Aug (AMa, mob), *intro*.

**American Bittern:** BSWMA 1-20 Jun (JHaa, mob); max 2 WRNWR 1 Jun-31 Jul (KK, mob).

**Least Bittern:** max 3 GV 1 Jun-30 Jul (PS, mob); max 3 WRNWR 5 Jun-21 Jul (KK, mob); SS 8-16 Jul (RH, mob); PP 9 Jun-31 Jul (AWei, mob).

**"Great White" Heron:** PP 19 Jul-31 Aug (AWei, mob), *intro*.

**Great Egret:** max 68 WRNWR 2-31 Aug (LS, mob).

**Snowy Egret:** max 12 EGR 1 Jun-31 Aug (GBen, mob); max 12 MC 1 Jun-31 Aug (KMcG, mob); max 2 PP 25,30 Jul (ML, mob).

**Little Blue Heron:** Suffern ROCK 14 Jul (AWei); Algonquin P ORAN 21 Jul-2 Aug (KMcD, mob); Haverstraw Bay Country Club ROCK 30 Jul (AWel); Muscoot Res WEST 4 Aug (SCam, mob); PP 9 Aug (AWei); Wallkill ULST 4-23 Aug (KMB, mob); Wappingers L DUTC 13-27 Aug (DvZ, mob); max 3 WRNWR 18-31 Aug (KK, mob).  
**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** SS 13 Jun (PS); Global Oil Terminal ORAN 7 Jun (BN); Lake Tappan ROCK 21 Jul-2 Aug (LS, mob); PP 29 Jul (AWei); max 3 EGR 6 Jun-30 Jul (JC, mob); max 5 MC 1 Jun-30 Jul (GBen, mob).  
**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:** VanBurenville Rd ORAN 1-10 Jun (JD); Lake Tappan 16-30 Aug (KF, mob).

**WHITE IBIS:** Dobbs Ferry Landing 29 Aug (TW, JAm), *intro*.

**Glossy Ibis:** PP 10 Jul (AWei); Hurley Mt Rd 22 Jul (RM); PP 1 Aug (AWei); CPP 1 Aug (JW); Rockland Psychiatric Center ROCK 4 Aug (NB); 2 Tallman Mt SP ROCK 10 Aug (AWei).

**Northern Harrier:** SGNWR 1-15 Jun (LL, mob); Richards Pres WEST 12 Jun (DV); WRNWR 5 Jun (GW); 2 BSWMA 30 Aug (JHaa).

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** max 2 Harriman SP 1-14 Jun (LS, mob); BSWMA 1-16 Jun (SB, mob); Grist Mill Ln DUTC 4 Jun (JAs); North Castle WEST 11 Jun (DP, TB).

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** NCR 4 Jun (SW); RSP 5-8 Jun (CK, mob); Arcady Rd WEST 5 Jun (LO); Sedgewood Club PUTN 30 Jul-4 Aug (SCam, mob)

**Monk Parakeet:** max 21 Titus Mill P WEST 1 Jun-31 Aug (GBen, mob).

**SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER:** Stony Kill Farm EEC DUTC 9-10 Jun (DD, BM, mob), *intro*.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** Anderson Rd SULL 1-3 Jun (SG, Mob); RSP 14 Aug (AS, mob); Glynnwood Farm PUTN 14-23 Aug (SCam, mob); Cliffdale Farm WEST 15-21 Aug (SR, mob); Clarence Fahnestock SP PUTN 21 Aug (AL, mob); SGNWR 22 Aug (KMcD); BSWMA 28-30 Aug (JHaa, SB).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** Honey Hollow WEST 18 Aug (JAm); RSP 34, 28 Aug (TW, JAm); Teatown L Res WEST 25 Aug (CR);

Pinecliff Sanctuary WEST 27-28 Aug (DV, TA); Cliffdale Farm 28 Aug (SR).

**Alder Flycatcher:** max 2 Ward Pound Ridge Res WEST 5-6 Jun (AG, KM); MC 1-7 Jun (GBen, TB).

**White-eyed Vireo:** Baxter Pres WEST 1-3 Jun (TA, mob); Angel Fly Pres WEST 3 Jun (TA); Round Pd ORAN 8 Jun (BT); PHP 11 Jun (CF); Lost City ULST 11 Jun (AP); Hunt-Parker Sanctuary WEST 15 Jun (TJ).

**LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE:** CPP 17 Jun (DWarn, mob); CPP 2 Aug (LT, mob), *intro*.

**Horned Lark:** max 3 OCBDR 17-19 Jul (LS, mob); max 31 OCBDR 5-31 Aug (MZ, mob).

**Bicknell's Thrush:** max 6 Slide Mt ULST 1 Jun-30 Jul (PM, mob).

**Evening Grosbeak:** Roscoe SULL 19 Aug (MG, mob); Tennanah L SULL 21 Aug (SG), *intro*.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** max 10 SGNWR 1 Jun-31 Aug (SW, mob); CPP 4-11 Jun (AS, mob); OCBDR 11-18 Jun (KK, mob); NR 24 Jun (SCam).

**LARK SPARROW:** RSP 31 Aug (TW), *intro*.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** Esopus ULST 19-20 Jun (DWare, SD), *intro*.

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** Andrew Haight Rd DUTC 5 Jun (JHan, JAs); max 2 Ulster P ULST 10 Jun-3 Jul (DT, mob); max 2 SFSP 18-19 Jun (SA, mob); OMRLMSP 25-26 Jun (CF, DvZ); Greta Hill DUTC 9 Jul (JHar); OMRLMSP 13 Jul (LS).

**Worm-eating Warbler:** max 2 WPFP 23 Jul-18 Aug (CR).

**Golden-winged Warbler:** max 3 SFSP 1-7 Jun (VP, mob).

**Blue-winged Warbler:** Clarence Fahnestock SP 21 Aug (AS, DvZ).

**Tennessee Warbler:** 14 Aug (SCam); Glynnwood Farms RSP 27 Aug (AS, GBer).  
**Nashville Warbler:** Hillview Res WEST 24 Aug (SCam).

**Hooded Warbler:** 2 Angle Fly Pres WEST 8-23 Jul (TA).

**Cape May Warbler:** max 2 Hillview Res 19-23 Aug (SCam).

**Northern Parula:** 2 RSP 5 Jun (JW); 4 Oakland Valley Rd SULL 8 Jun (JHaa).

**Magnolia Warbler:** Clarence Fahnestock SP  
23 Aug (AL).  
**Bay-breasted Warbler:** Empire State Trail  
DUTC 27 Aug (CCh).  
**Palm Warbler:** West Point ORAN 22 Aug  
(EH).  
**Canada Warbler:** Cliffdale Farm 15 Aug  
(SR); BSWMA 20 Aug (JC, DB).

**BLUE GROSBEAK:** Stony Pt ROCK 1 Jun  
(LS); CPP 16-18 Jun (LS, mob), *intro*.  
**Dickcissel:** OCBDR 9-19 Jun (RDi, mob);  
CPP 15 Aug (KB); WRNWR 27 Aug (GBen),  
*intro*.

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**REGION 10—MARINE**

**S. S. Mitra**  
Biology Department, College of Staten Island,  
2800 Victory Boulevard, Staten Island, NY 10314  
shaibal.mitra@csi.cuny.edu

**Patricia J. Lindsay**  
28 Mystic Circle, Bay Shore, NY 11706  
gelochelidon@gmail.com

	Central Park			Islip		
Temp	Average	Normal	Deviation	Average	Normal	Deviation
Jun	71.4°	72.0°	-0.6°	69.0°	69.0°	0.0°
Jul	79.5°	77.5°	+2.0°	77.1°	75.0°	+2.1°
Aug	79.3°	76.1°	+3.2°	77.7°	73.7°	+4.0°

Precip	Total	Normal	Deviation	Total	Normal	Deviation
Jun	2.92"	4.54"	-1.62"	2.81"	4.00"	-1.19"
Jul	4.55"	4.60"	-0.05"	1.27"	3.26"	-1.99"
Aug	1.71"	4.56"	-2.85"	0.67"	4.24"	-3.57"

During June, rainfall was more than an inch below average across the Region, whereas temperatures were near-normal. July continued even drier in Islip (two inches below average) but rainfall was near-normal at Central Park in July. This middle month of the summer season was hot, averaging two degrees above average at both stations, and August was even hotter, with positive deviations of four degrees at Islip and more than three degrees at Central Park. August’s unusual heat was experienced in combination with extreme deficits in rainfall: 3.57 inches below normal at Islip and 2.85 inches below normal at Central Park. On Long Island, the season’s total rainfall was just 4.75 inches, compared to an average of 11.5 inches.

The species accounts below include all the species for which we have records from New York City and Long Island during June-August 2022. This three-month  
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period features the most complex bird movements of the year. Scores of species of Neotropical migrant passerines and shorebirds are still moving northward in early June, and as much as possible we have tried to document this with specific records. Likewise, we have included southbound arrival dates for a very large number of species, including many whose last northbound records were enumerated. And among these twice-recorded species, a significant number exhibit other kinds of occurrence in between, and these have been noted also, as far as possible, as a prerequisite to elucidating their significance: as non-breeding individuals lingering from spring, local or exceptional breeding attempts, incursions or irruptions of various kinds, or even potential vagrants from distant or unexpected populations of the species in question. The most complex cases of all involve those species that occur regularly here in summer, as breeders for example, but also as migrants/visitors/vagrants in one or more of the other categories just described.

This year we noted 5 June frequently as the last date for northbound passage migrants, implying that conditions were favorable for movement at that time, and we note that this provides interested observers with a tool for mining their own records: did you record Red-eyed Vireos, Common Yellowthroats, or other late-migrating breeding species on 5 Jun 2022 in contexts suggestive of migration?

**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** continues to occur regularly in spring and summer, with one lingering from spring to 2 June at Miller Field, Staten Island, reports of four birds together at several sites in western Suffolk County 10-29 June, and two at Mattituck, on the North Fork, on 21 June. Breaking stride taxonomically, it's convenient to list here the impressive series of other visitors from the south, most of which, like the tree duck, show increasing trends in the Region: **White-winged Dove**, **White Ibis**, **White-faced Ibis**, **Mississippi Kite**, and **Swallow-tailed Kite** (details in species accounts).

In contrast to those warm-season visitors, most waterfowl species are most numerous in Region 10 from late fall through early spring, but again, almost all of these have some tendency to over-summer, albeit highly variable from species to species and from year to year. For instance, King Eider is much more prone to summer occurrence than many other species of wintering waterfowl, especially in proportion to its very low winter abundance. This summer featured the continuing male near Great Kills, Staten Island through at least 11 August; a male photographed at under-birded East Rockaway Inlet 4 June; and one at Orient Point 6 August.

Summer 2022 was an off season for Arctic Tern, with Tripper Paul's record from Nickerson Beach on 4 June unique this year. Those who missed out on the unprecedented event of 13 May missed the species this year. Derek Rogers and Bill Krueger in their Region 7 report describe the correlated occurrence of various larid species on Lake Champlain in summer: the fortunes of unusual species such as Little Gull and Parasitic Jaeger wax and wane together. The same is true on Long Island, where Sandwich Tern tends to co-occur with Arctic Tern during June and July (unpubl. data), making the **Sandwich Tern** recorded by Seth

Ausubel, Mary Normandia, and C. Finger (Breezy Point, 24 June) all the more noteworthy, in this down year for rare terns.

A trip to the shelf break and beyond added important data regarding deep water seabird species that were until recently poorly known but are now expected-in-context, such as **White-faced** and **Band-rumped Storm-Petrels**, **Black-capped Petrel**, and **Audubon's Shearwater**. Seawatching from shore, although unlikely to produce these species, nevertheless is perennially rewarding on Long Island. This summer, the best from shore included a **South Polar Skua** at Robert Moses SP on 2 July, a **Magnificent Frigatebird** at the same site on 4 June, and a **Brown Booby** at Smith Point CP on 5 July. The heaviest movement at Robert Moses SP was 16 June, when more than 800 large shearwaters were noted (somewhat more Cory's than Greats among those identified) and **6** Manx Shearwaters. Starting 9 June, greater than usual numbers of Great and Sooty Shearwaters were reported dead on the beaches, recalling the much larger events of June 2017. The largest number of dead Great Shearwaters at any site was five at Jones Beach.

This summer marked the mid-point of the Breeding Bird Atlas. In general, atlasing effort seems to be increasing in Region 10, and each season produces interesting observations. Prior to the 1930s, Northern Parulas bred commonly on Long Island's East End. Females depended on the lichen *Usnea trichodea* to build their nests, and the loss of this lichen to pollution (and possibly to changes in climate) spelled the end of regular successful breeding here. But, to this day, Northern Parulas continue to sing territorially here more frequently than any other rare or marginal breeding species of warbler, and in precisely their old breeding haunts: swampy woods bordering Gardiners and Peconic Bays. This year, Ken and Sue Feustel found a singing male at Connetquot River SP on 11 June; Steve Biasetti found one at the Grace Estate, Northwest Woods, East Hampton, on 8 June; and Angus Wilson found three, including two singing males, at Fresh Pond, Montauk—collectively illustrating this long-standing pattern. One possible explanation is that these habitats remain attractive in most respects, thus appealing to prospecting males, but that the absence of the lichen is decisive in discouraging actual breeding (Mitra 2008: A puzzle in space and time: Parulas and lichens in Long Island's mesic woodlands. *SOFO Naturalist* Winter 2008: 1-2).

Chestnut-sided Warbler once nested fairly widely on Long Island but has, as far as we know, vanished from all its former breeding stations, such as the Northwest Woods in East Hampton. Thus a bird observed singing at length in extensive natural habitat on the North Fork, on 10 June by Keith Klein and Tyler Mansfield, was very interesting. Worm-eating Warbler has always been a rare and local breeder on Long Island, so singing birds at Mount Sinai and Fishers Island this June are notable.

Like last year, the spit at Democrat Point, at the western end of Fire Island, hosted a very large Least Tern colony (ca. 300 adults estimated on 11 June; 330 estimated 24 June), as well as nesting Common Terns and possibly nesting

Roseate Terns. We intend to make a fuller study of the results to date after next year's field work in preparation for the last year of data collection, in 2024.

The Captree June Count was conducted for the eighth year on 11 June. This purposeful effort (30 observers 90 party hours) provides readers with useful information about the relative abundance of many common, widespread but typically underreported species. Counts for all species recorded are included below (CJC 11 Jun 2022, P. J. Lindsay and S. S Mitra compilers).

Shorebirds are notorious for almost "crossing paths with themselves" as their northbound movements always extend into early June and southbound movements begin by end of that month. It's true, of course, that the latest spring migrants (e.g., Semipalmated and White-rumped Sandpipers) return later than the earliest returning species (e.g., Least Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, and Lesser Yellowlegs), whereas the latter are characteristically among the earlier spring migrants. But examples of both cohorts also occur in varying numbers at the "wrong" times, and it is only by recording the details of such records that the nuances of their movements may some day be understood more fully. This June featured larger than usual numbers of many species, extending right into the middle of the month. It seems possible that many of the birds observed on Long Island at that time would be unable to breed successfully this year. One thing we know is that records of mega-rarity shorebirds are disproportionately concentrated from late June through mid-July, implying these birds' departures from their distant breeding areas very early in the breeding season, and suggesting nesting failure as a possible proximate cause of their vagrancy.

Probably the most watched individual bird of the season was a **Bar-tailed Godwit** that visited the Moriches Inlet flats 19 July-6 August (720 line items in eBird, though some local observers saw it multiple times during its prolonged stay). Seen only distantly the first day, it was tentatively identified as a Marbled Godwit by finder Ben Bolduc, who took pains to obtain photos despite the challenging conditions. Although a single Modwit would not trip the eBird filter, reviewer Michael McBrien was intrigued enough by the somewhat early date to examine the photos, which struck him as a better fit for Bar-tailed. This proved to be the case when the bird was re-found and studied critically the next day, about the eighth New York record but the fourth for this site! Furthermore, Patricia Lindsay and the other first responders noted with amazement that it was an example of the East-Palearctic subspecies *baueri*, a first for New York.

Conditions at Jamaica Bay's East Pond were excellent again this year, partly a consequence of the low rainfall throughout the season and the high temperatures during July and August. There were many reports of good numbers and high diversity throughout July and August, including on the Shorebird Festival on 13 August. Notably, most of the scarce and local species for which this site is so critical in our Region were well-reported: Stilt Sandpiper, Hudsonian Godwit, and Wilson's and Red-necked Phalaropes. It is gratifying to include many of these in the accounts below, perhaps none more so than the count of 637 Lesser

Yellowlegs at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge on 25 July, by Andrew Baksh, a tireless advocate for access and habitat management at the Bay.

Among southbound passerine migrants, 12 August recurs repeatedly as a southbound arrival date and as a maximum count date for many species. Note, for instance, the numerous citations in the species accounts below of Max Epstein's and Ryan Mandelbaum's data from Breezy Point that day. With this in mind, other observations from that date that were less exceptional might nevertheless be more interpretable to interested students of bird movements and distribution.

Myrtle Warblers were observed in August this year, including a very early bird at Lido Beach Preserve, Nassau, on 2 August. About half of the 8-10 reports from 18-31 August were photographed or described well enough to allow plumage analysis, and all of these were either adults in or molting out of breeding plumage, or juveniles, prior to pre-basic molt. As we have discussed many times in this report, the late August occurrence of unmolted Myrtle Warblers, Purple Finches, and various other boreal-breeding species is a phenomenon quite apart from their ordinary southbound migration phenology, one that is typically low volume, highly variable from year to year, and predictive of other irruptions from the north. This year Region 10 did not record Purple Finch by season's end, and Red-breasted Nuthatches, although present widely throughout the Region and throughout the season, did not move conspicuously along the outer coast. It will be interesting to see what the fall brings.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Marcia Abrahams, Meryl Ackley, Robert Adamo, Patricia Aitken, H. Resit Akçakaya, Deborah Allen, Trevor Ambrico, Bob Anderson, Richard Aracil, Jim Ash, Seth Ausubel, Tom Aversa, Andrew Baksh, Dana Barbato, David Barrett, Catherine Barron, Rob Bate, Kaia Beatty, Ed Becher, Debbie Becker, Karen Becker, Bill Belford, Matthieu Benoit, Gail Benson, Bobby Berlingeri, Luci Betti, Steve Biasetti, Mary Beth Billerman, Shawn Billerman, Orhan Birol, Shane Blodgett, Hank Bohne, Ben Bolduc, Brent Bomkamp, Christopher Braut, Alyssa Buelo, Brenda Bull, Adrian Burke, Thomas W. Burke, Ben Cacace, Sean Camillieri, Chase Cammarota, Peter Capainolo, Jack Carlson, Dick Cartwright, Keith Cashman, Cesar Castillo, Steve Chang, David Chernak, Anthony Ciancimino, Jeanne Cimorelli, Hailey Clancy, Sam Clarke, Anthony Collerton, Russ Comeau, Mike Cooper, Kathleen Coyle, Nick Dawson, Louis DeMarco, Alice Deutsch, Joseph DiCostanzo, Patrice Domeischel, Peter Dorosh, Alan Drogin, Tim Dunn, Frank Durso, Ed Eden, Max Epstein, Linda Ewing, Mike Farina, Gerry Farley, Andrew Farnsworth, Anthony Ferino, Ken Feustel, Suzy Feustel, Corey Finger, Tom Fiore, Howie Fischer, Richard Fleming, Brendan Fogarty, Karen Fung, Doug Futuyma, John Gaglione, Christopher Gangemi, Leonora Gangemi, Miachesca Gangemi, Arie Gilbert, Joe Giunta, Vincent Glasser, John Gluth, Doug Gochfeld, Menachem Goldstein, Eric Goodman,

Richard Gostic, Isaac Grant, Cliff Hagen, Richard Haimes, David Harrison, Julie Hart, Kathy Hart, Tim Healy, Nadine Henderson, Lynne Hertzog, Mike Higgiston, Adelia Honeywood, Patrick Horan, Dennis Hrehowsik, Sam Jannazzo, Rob Jett, Ed Johnson, Kristen Johnson, Tom Johnson, Jennifer Kepler, Gus Keri, HJ Kim, Gwen Klein, Keith Klein, Katie Kleinpeter, Mary Beth Kooper, Linda LaBella, MaryLaura Lamont, Joseph Landesberg, Jody Levin, Ernie Lewis, David Lichter, Patricia J. Lindsay, Heydi Lopes, Jean Loscalzo, Alexandra Lowe, Joshua Malbin, Ryan Mandelbaum, Roberta Manion, Tyler Mansfield, Elias Markee, Patrick Markee, Michael McBrien, Jay McGowan, Alissa Milillo, Eric Miller, Stella Miller, Joel Milton, Karlo Mirth, Shaibal S. Mitra, Brian Moore, Thomas Moran, Pete Morris, Christena Murphy, Ernst Mutchnick, Farah & Stefan Mutchnick, Lisa Nasta, Mary Normandia, Bruce Nott, Karen O'Hearn, Todd Olson, Nathan O'Reilly, Bill Ostrander, Patrick Palladino, Peter Paul, Robert Paxton, Vinnie Pellegrino, Aidan Perkins, Stephane Perrault, Jon Piasecki, Ashley Pichon, Peter Post, Tom Preston, Robert Proniewych, Qoan Quinlan, Glen Quinn, Jose Ramirez-Garofalo, Daryl Ramrattan, Jay Rand, Elizabeth Ratner, RBA – NYC Rare Bird Alert, T. Remy, Ian Resnick, Phil Ribolow, Jeff Ritter, Michael Rizzo, Francisco Rodriguez, Kevin Rogers, Alexandra Roldos, Paul Salaman, Dimitris Salas, Juan Salas, Jud Santos, Lynne & Mike Scheibel, Lisa Scheppeke, Vincent Schiappa, Daniel Schlapfer, Donna Schulman, Eileen Schwinn, John Sepenoski, Ryan Serio, Maya Shikhman, Patrick Shure, Michael Silber, Sean Sime, Joel Strong, Noah Stryker, Taylor Sturm, Junko Suzuki, Deborah Swamback, Paul Sweet, Ken Thompson, Nancy Toner, Kathleen Toomey, John Turner, Mike Vedder, Richard Veit, Joe Viglietta, Steve Walter, Bob Washburn, Forrest Wickman, Gabriel Willow, Alex Wilson, Angus Wilson, Jennifer Wilson-Pines, Charles Witek, Veryl Witmer, Lisa Wollerstein, Seth Ian Wollney, Byron Young, Michael Yuan, Mary Ann Zovko, Ryan Zucker, and many other who have contributed sightings during the season.

## ABBREVIATIONS

**APP** – Alley Pd P, QUEE; **BCA** – Bayard Cutting Arboretum, SUFF; **BNL** – Brookhaven National Laboratory, SUFF; **BPt** – Breezy Pt, QUEE; **CCP** – Cupsogue CP, SUFF; **CHP** – Conference House P, RICH; **CICP** – Coney I Creek P, KING; **CJC** – Captree June Count, SUFF, 11 Jun, same area covered as for the CBC; **CLP** – Clove Lakes P, RICH; **CP** – Central P, NEWY; **CRSP** – Connetquot Ri SP Pres; **DP** – Democrat Pt, SUFF; **EPCAL** – Calverton Grasslands, formerly Grumman property; **FBF** – Floyd Bennett Field, KING; **FINS** – Fire I National Seashore, SUFF; **FKP** – Fresh Kills P, RICH; **FL** – recently fledged young; **GGI** – Great Gull I, SUFF; **GKP** – Great Kills P, RICH; **GwC** – Green-Wood Cemetery, KING; **HSP** – Heckscher SP, SUFF; **Jam Bay** – Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, QUEE; **JBSP** – Jones Beach SP, NASS; **JBWE** – Jones Beach SP West End, NASS; **MB** – Mecox Bay and In, SUFF; **MBI** –



Moriches Bay and In, SUFF; **Mon** – Montauk, SUFF; **MPt** – Montauk Pt SP, SUFF; **MPB** – Marine P Brooklyn, KING; **NB** – Nickerson Beach, NASS; **NE** – nest with eggs, **NY** – nest with young; **OBch** – Oakwood Beach, KING; **OI** – Old Inlet, SUFF; **ON** – occupied nest; **OPt** – Orient Pt CP, SUFF; **PBP** – Pelham Bay P, BRON; **PlumbB** – Plumb Beach, KING; **PP** – Prospect P, KING; **PPds** – Preston Ponds, Manorville, SUFF; **RMSP** – Robert Moses SP, SUFF; **RRM** – River Rd Marshes, RICH; **RSF** – Riverhead Sod Farms, SUFF; **Sagg** – Sagaponack Pd, SUFF; **SCSP** – Shirley Chisholm SP, KING; **Shinn** – Shinnecock In, SUFF; **SMSP** – Sunken Meadow SP, SUFF; **SPCP** – Smiths Pt CP, SUFF; **TP** – Timber Pt, SUFF; **TRCP** – Terrell Ri CP, SUFF.

**BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK:**

Miller Field, RICH 1-2 Jun, from spring (ACi *et al.*, ph.); 4 Willets Creek, W. Islip, SUFF 10 Jun (LN, ph.); 4 Avalon Nature Pres, Stony Brook, SUFF 12 Jun (J. Cimorelli *et seq.*, ph.); 4 Fresh Pd, Fort Salonga, SUFF 29 Jun (C. Murphy, ph.); 2 Mattituck 21 Jun (BBol); *intro*.

**Snow Goose:** Jam Bay 4 Jun (MBK *et al.*) & 26 Jun (CF); JBSP 12-14 Jun (LN *et seq.*).

**Brant:** widely reported; max 43 SCSP 8 Aug (DGo).

**Canada Goose:** 718 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 500 FKP 26 Jul (JRG).

**Mute Swan:** 53 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), further reduced from previous years (e.g., 148 in 2019); max 280 Jam Bay 28 Aug (MY *et al.*).

**Wood Duck:** 17 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 30 RRM 3 Jul.

**Blue-winged Teal:** a few Jam Bay thru 7 Jun; a few there early Aug possibly continuing or early migrants; 3 PPds 4 Jun (H. Bohne, J. Levin); arr CP and FBF 13 Aug, more widely from 25 Aug; max 65 Jam Bay 31 Aug (TH).

**Northern Shoveler:** a few probably summered Jam Bay, e.g., 3 there 26 Jul (D. Harrison); arr PP 30 Aug; none RICH, NASS, or SUFF.

**Gadwall:** 2 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 125 Jam Bay 14 Aug (JMcG).

**American Wigeon:** 1-2 Jam Bay thru.

**Mallard:** 148 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 900 Jam Bay 14 Aug (JMcG).

**American Black Duck:** 3 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 400 Jam Bay 14 Aug (JMcG).

**Northern Pintail:** Watch Hill, FINS 10 Jun (DSw, ph.), m; Riverside P, NEWY 2 Jul (A. Drogin), f; 1-2 Jam Bay 6 Aug thru; OBch 10 Aug (ACi).

**Green-winged Teal:** as many as 10 Jun-Jul Jam Bay; JBSP 8, 24 Jun (K&SF), pr; Moriches I, East Moriches, SUFF 1 Jun (F&SM, ph), m; arr several sites 13 Aug.

**Greater Scaup:** CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), recorded 4/8 years; other singles various dates from RICH, KING, QUEE, and NASS; 2 CRSPP 28 Aug (E. Goodman).

**Lesser Scaup:** Jam Bay thru, m.

**King Eider:** male near GKP thru 11 Aug; male E. Rockaway In, NASS 4 Jun (ph.); OPT 6 Aug (P. Ribolow); *intro*.

**Common Eider:** summered less widely along the ocean coast compared to recent years, mainly 1-2 per site; not recorded CJC 11 Jun; high counts incl 18 MPt 25 Jul, 15 GGI 21 Jun, and 34 Fisher's I SUFF 13 Aug, the latter two near breeding sites.

**Surf Scoter:** 2 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); about 10 reps of 1-4 birds along outer coast, BPt to Mon.

**White-winged Scoter:** GKP 18 Aug (C. Barron), unus site; 13 Goldsmith Inlet, SUFF 3 Jun (JSep), late for so many; thereafter about 5 reps of 1-3 along North Fork and at Accabonac Harbor and Napeague, all SUFF.

**Black Scoter:** many reps along outer coast; max 44 off Montauk Village 4 Aug.

**Long-tailed Duck:** singles at 7 typical sites, GKP to MPt.

**Bufflehead:** RRM 19 Jun (C. Barron, ACi), only rep.

**Hooded Merganser:** Wertheim NWR SUFF many dates 4 Jun-20 Aug, possible breeding site; Pepperidge L, Eastport, SUFF 9 Jun (F&SM); MPB 8 Jun (HL); Newtown Cr, KING 9 Jul; two Jam Bay 25 Jul-10 Aug; Erie Basin P, KING 29, 31 Jul; Neguntague Cr, Lindenhurst, SUFF 29 Jul; Matrix Global Logistics P, RICH 27, 30 Aug; Reeds Basket Willow Swamp P, RICH 5 Aug.

**Common Merganser:** Wertheim NWR SUFF 16 Jun (K. Hart), only rep.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** about a dozen reports of 1-5, as expected.

**Ruddy Duck:** many reps Jam Bay, max 32 on 14 Aug; a few others summered elsewhere, as usual.

**Northern Bobwhite:** no completely convincing reports of wild birds, given the extent of releases in recent years. Whether any of these are contributing to self-sustaining populations is doubtful.

**Wild Turkey:** 6 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); well reported BRON, RICH, and most of SUFF; absent on LI west of the Sagtikos and Robert Moses Parkways, except for two reps of one Manhasset, NASS.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** persists RICH and coastal KING; SUFF reps likely stocked birds.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** no Jun reps.

**Rock Pigeon:** 103 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), max 500 CP 26 Aug.

**WHITE-WINGED DOVE:** JBWE 9-10 Jun (T. Remy *et seq.*, ph.).

**Mourning Dove:** 177 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), max; max 92 PP 28 Jul.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); widely reported but seemingly scarce this season.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** not rep CJC 11 Jun; very few Jun reps anywhere in Region.

**Common Nighthawk:** NJ breeders rep from adj RICH, but otherwise almost absent Jun; 13 sb migr at Setauket SUFF 19 Aug with high count of 243 on 27 Aug (P. Domeischel *et al.*).

**Chuck-will's-widow:** singing birds FINS (Sunken Forest to Watch Hill), Quogue, and Napeague SUFF.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** 2 CJC 11 Jun; reps from Edgewood Pine Barrens, CRSPP, Rocky Pt, Calverton, Westhampton-Quogue area, Napeague, all SUFF; distressingly few stations, but perhaps reflecting a lack of leg-work by year-listers not exploring beyond the easiest, most reliable sites.

**Chimney Swift:** 57 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 398 1 W 96<sup>th</sup> St, NEWY 26 Aug (B. Cacace); 65 Hallock SP SUFF 24 Aug, moving westward during one hour count (MLL).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** 5 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 7 Fort Tryon P, NEWY 27 Aug.

**Clapper Rail:** 6 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 14 CCP 4 Aug (K&SF).

**KING RAIL:** TP, continuing from spring (JGI *et al.*); paired with a Clapper Rail.

**Virginia Rail:** 3 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Sora:** max 2 Atlantique, FINS 5 Aug (M. Rakowski), rarely reported from the outer beach.

**American Coot:** 2 Jam Bay 29 Jul and later.

**BLACK RAIL:** an adult was seen in a SUFF marsh. Given the rarity and sensitivity of the species and the sensitivity of the site, details are omitted here at this time.

**BLACK-NECKED STILT:** Tiana Beach, SUFF 5 Jun (ESch *et seq.*, ph.).

**American Avocet:** Jam Bay 31 Jul to 29 Aug at least; MB 30 Jul-7 Aug (P. Sweet *et seq.*, ph.); Watch Hill, FINS 6 Aug (P. Sweet, ph.).

**American Oystercatcher:** 81 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 200 NB various dates.

**Black-bellied Plover:** 5 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 155 OI 14 Aug (MMcB).

**American Golden-Plover:** arr Sagg 18 Aug; max 2 RSF 25 Aug (P. Aitken).

**Killdeer:** 42 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 58 Brookfield, RICH 28 Jul.

**Semipalmated Plover:** 7 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 1,085 OI 14 Aug (MMcB).

**Piping Plover:** 24 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 50 DP 30 Jun (KJ), large number for recent years.

**Upland Sandpiper:** 3 FKP 26 Jul (JRG); CICP 31 Jul (DGo *et al.*, aud. rec.); MBI 11 Aug (R. Zucker); Eastport, SUFF 28-31 Aug (MC).

**Whimbrel:** TP 2-3 Jun; BPT 7 Jun (J. Kepler); Shinn 15 Jun; arr Watch Hill, FINS 11 Jul (RAR); max 43 MBI 25 Jul (DGo, SSI).

**BAR-TAILED GODWIT:** MBI 19 Jul (BBol) thru at least 6 Aug (K. Kleinpeter, J. Rand); first NYS record of ssp. *baueri*; *intro*.

**Hudsonian Godwit:** arr Jam Bay 16 Jul, where 1-3 were reported daily thru; only reps.

**Marbled Godwit:** Little Egg Marsh, Jam Bay 1 Jun (LDeM); East High Meadow, Jam Bay 26 Jun (LDeM); arr Jam Bay and Gardiners I, SUFF 8 Aug.

**Ruddy Turnstone:** max northbound 324 Little Egg Marsh, Jam Bay 1 Jun (LDeM) and 500 MBI 3 Jun; max southbound 115 OI 14 Aug (MMcB).

**Red Knot:** max nb 42 Little Egg Marsh, Jam Bay (LDeM) and 30 JBWE 4-6 Jun; max southbound 136 OI 14 Aug (MMcB).

**Stilt Sandpiper:** arr Jam Bay 3 Jul (ABk); max 73 Jam Bay 25 Jul Aug (ABk); just a few reps of small numbers away from Jam Bay, max 4 Sagg 27 Jul (B. Moore) and 5 Browns Pt Marsh, Orient, SUFF 9 Aug (J. Rand).

**Sanderling:** 7 CJC; max 3725 OI 6 Aug (MMcB).

**Dunlin:** max nb 20 JBWE 5 Jun (S. Billerman).

**Baird's Sandpiper:** arr Opt 13 Aug (JSep), adult, rare; next PlumbB 24 Aug (P. Paul); no more than 2 per site.

**Least Sandpiper:** uncharacteristically widely reported thru Jun in all counties, max 18 JBWE 4 Jun (B. Berlingeri); sb arr 6 Jam Bay 29 Jun (J. Milton); max 310 Jam Bay 7 Jul (DGo, P. Paul, SSi) and 500 16 Jul (ABk).

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** 6 CJC; max nb 39 MBI 20 Jun (PJL, SSM), late for so many; sb arr indiscernible; max 73 Jam Bay 16 Aug (ABk), large number.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** Easport Sod Fields, SUFF 30-31 Aug; only rep.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** HSP 14 Jun; arr Jam Bay 7 Jul; max 16 Jam Bay 8 Aug (TH).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** 90 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); nb max 2500 JBWE 4 Jun (JGI); 500 still present there 18 Jun; 290 MBI 20 Jun; sb max 1800 Jam Bay 8 Aug (ABk).

**Western Sandpiper:** max 4 Jam Bay 25 Jul (ABk) and 31 Jul (PJL *et al.*).

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** 2 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); 190 MBI 20 Jun (PJL, SSM), early for so many; max 2300 Jam Bay 16 Jul (ABk).

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** arr Jam Bay 6 Jul (ABk), early; max 4 Jam Bay 25 Jul and 5 Aug.

**American Woodcock:** reported from 8 sites.

**Wilson's Snipe:** arr Sans Souci CP SUFF 22 Aug, thru 31 Aug; West Meadows Wetland Res, SUFF 28 Aug; only reps.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); widely rep through Jun; max 15 FKP 10 Jul (JRG).

**Solitary Sandpiper:** max 6 Calverton Pds, SUFF 12 Aug.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 637 Jam Bay 25 Jul (ABk), *intro*.

**"Eastern" Willet:** 73 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 150 MBI 30 Jul.

**"Western" Willet:** DP 11 Jun (on CJC; PJL, SSM); 2 MBI 20 Jun (PJL, SSM); scarce before July; max 10 MBI 21 Aug (PJL, SSM).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** 11 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 242 Jam Bay 26 Jul (A. Honeywood).

**Wilson's Phalarope:** JBWE 3 Jun (M. Rizzo); Jam Bay 16 Jun (BF); arr Jam Bay 15 Jul; max 2 there on various dates; only reports.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** JBWE 3-12 Jun; arr 2 Mon near offshore waters 3 Aug; max 5 Hudson Canyon 15 Aug (DGo *et al.*); Mon 20 Aug; only reps.

**RED PHALAROPE (R10):** 3 Mon near offshore waters (S. Biasetti).

**SOUTH POLAR SKUA:** RMSP 2 Jul (ME, MY, ph.).

**Parasitic Jaeger:** 2 SPCP 10 Jun (J. Piasecki); JBSP 16 Jun (J. Gaglione), unusual w of SUFF; 3 RMSP 16 Jun (SSM *et al.*); 17 Jun RMSP (SSM *et al.*); 2 RMSP 22 Jun (PJL, SSM); Watch Hill, FINS 16 Jul (P. Sweet); Southampton Village SUFF 21 Aug (EMA); 2 Main Beach, East Hampton SUFF 29 Aug (EMA, E. Ratner); Amagansett, SUFF 16 Jul (AnW); MPt 31 (EMA); e LI Sound, n of Plum 1 8 Aug (L. Hertzog), scarce in the Sound; 2 Mon near offshore waters 13 Aug (P. Salaman); max 4 & 5 MPt 29 & 30 Aug (EMA); all reps cited.

**Black-legged Kittiwake:** Opt 20 Aug (JSep, ph.), unus date and location.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** scattered singles along s shores of Staten I and LI in all three months; Manhasset Bay NASS 12 Jul & 7 Aug (N. Toner); PBP 26 Jul (A. Buelo, ph.); unus in summer away from outer coast.

**Black-headed Gull:** Jam Bay 7 Jun thru (mob, ph.).

**Laughing Gull:** 497 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), ON; max 1700 GKP 23 Aug.

**Ring-billed Gull:** 49 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 383 Orchard Beach, BRON 18 Aug (RAr).

**Herring Gull:** 498 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), FL; max. 640 MBI 30 Jul (AnW).

**Iceland Gull:** MB 10 Jun (D. Schulman) to 20 Jun (E. Eden).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** 39 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 233 RMSP 4 Aug (KJ).

**Great Black-backed Gull:** 365 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), ON; max 700 CHP 17 Aug.

**Least Tern:** 380 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), NE; max 330 DP 24 Jun (JGI); major nesting colony.

**Gull-billed Tern:** many reps from traditional sites around Jam Bay and Jones In, NASS; max

12 Jam Bay 7 Jul (CF); OI 6 Aug (MMcB), only SUFF rep.

**Caspian Tern:** Inwood Hill P, NEWY 7 Jun; Jam Bay 15 Jun (J. Malbin); PlumbB 17 Jun (J. Salas); max 4 OBCh 24 Jul (CH).

**Black Tern:** many reps of 1-3 along oceanfront from NB eastward; max 20 Southampton Village SUFF 21 Aug (EMa).

**Roseate Tern:** DP 11 Jun (on CJC; PJL, SSM); interesting series of far-western reps: GKP 2 Jul (ACi *et al.*, ph.), v rare RICH; BPt 17, 23, 25 Jun (J. Kepler, L. Scheppeke, ph.), where regular in small numbers; max counts Jones, Fire I, Old, Moriches, and Shinnecock Inlets on the order of 2-5; breeders from GGI seen in numbers e LI Sound, OPt, Gardiners I, MPt, etc.

**Common Tern:** 256 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), nesting at DP for second year in a row; max 3300 NB 10 Jun (M. Abrahams).

**ARCTIC TERN (R10):** SY NB 4 Jun (P. Paul, ph.), only rep.

**Forster's Tern:** 69 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 400 MBI 29 Jul (SA, MN); Dyckman St NEWY 8, 9 Aug, rare for county.

**Royal Tern:** max 62 OI 20 Aug (J. Strong).

**Sandwich Tern:** BPt 24 Jun (SA, CF, MN, ph.).

**Black Skimmer:** 3 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 1070 NB 29 Aug (PJL).

**Red-throated Loon:** 2 RMSP 1 & 16 Jun (K. Feusel; JGI); 2 CCP 5 Jun (J. Rand).

**PACIFIC LOON:** RMSP 22 Jun (SSM *et al.*), molting SY.

**Common Loon:** 17 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), max 112 Tiana Beach SUFF 5 Jun (EMa, E. Ratner).

**Wilson's Storm-Petrel:** 2 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); 3 BPt 23 Jun (ME, DGo), westernmost; max 515 Hudson Canyon 15 Aug (DGo *et al.*), streaming east at the Elbow and further to nw.

**WHITE-FACED STORM-PETREL:** singles on the shelf and slope sides of Hudson Canyon 15 Aug (DGo *et al.*, ph.).

**LEACH'S STORM-PETREL:** small numbers ca. Hudson Canyon 15 Aug (DGo *et al.*, ph.), max 11 per hour.

**BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL:** small numbers ca. Hudson Canyon 15 Aug (DGo *et al.*, ph.), max 5 per hour.

**BLACK-CAPPED PETREL:** 3 detections of singles near Hudson Canyon 15 Aug (DGo *et al.*, ph.).

**Cory's Shearwater:** >330 RMSP 16 Jun (SSM *et al.*); max 1140 MPt 28 Aug (EMa).

**Sooty Shearwater:** max 15 Mon near offshore waters 1 Jun (F. Durso).

**Great Shearwater:** max 2800 Mon near offshore waters 17 Jul (R. Comeau); >270 RMSP 16 Jun (SSM *et al.*), large number from shore; 5 dead on beach JBSP 9 Jun (A. McIntyre); others dead elsewhere; *intro*.

**Manx Shearwater:** max 12 Mon near offshore waters 27 Jul (T. Moran, ESch); 6 RMSP 16 Jun (SSM *et al.*), large number from shore.

**Audubon's Shearwater:** small numbers ca. Hudson Canyon 15 Aug (DGo *et al.*, ph.), max 2 per hour.

**MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD:** RMSP 4 Jun (E. Goodman), female.

**BROWN BOOBY:** SPCP 5 Jul (L. Betti, P. Domeischel, ph.); 7 Jul MBI (BBol).

**Northern Gannet:** 3 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 15 RMSP 23 Jun (PJL, B. Nott).

**Great Cormorant:** widespread reps 5 Aug and later; max 2 OPt 7 Aug and later.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 470 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 750 MBI 21 Aug.

**Brown Pelican:** arr NB 7 Jun (JWP); one CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 10 Fire Island Pines, FINS 8 Jul (V. Witmer); widely reported along the outer coast.

**American Bittern:** GKP 19 Jun; Ward Melville P, Brookhaven, SUFF 30 Aug; only reps.

**Least Bittern:** apart from trad sites RICH and SUFF, PP 3-5 Jun (F. Wickman *et seq.*) and Lawrence Marsh, NASS 4 Jul (BF, S. Perreault).

**Great Blue Heron:** 15 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 37 Co-op City, BRON 1 Aug.

**Great Egret:** 63 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 140 Jam Bay 20 Jul (CF).

**Snowy Egret:** 32 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 220 Jam Bay 20 Jul (CF).

**Little Blue Heron:** 3 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 11 OBCh 12 Aug (TH).

**Tricolored Heron:** 2 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 4 Captree Marshes SUFF 27 Jun (JGI *et al.*).

**Cattle Egret:** OBCh 13 Aug (SSM).

**Green Heron:** 10 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max max 6 PP 15 Jul.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** 8 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 60 Jam Bay 17 Jul (SA, MN).

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:** 4 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 18 Lindenwood, QUEE 14 Jul.

**WHITE IBIS:** OBch 10 Aug (CH) thru, imm; 4 West Meadow Wetlands Res, Stony Brook, SUFF 13 Aug (H. R. Akçakaya), imms.; then 1-7 there and nearby thru (mob, ph.).

**Glossy Ibis:** 91 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 120 Jam Bay 22 Jul (TH).

**WHITE-FACED IBIS:** Jam Bay 7 Jun (CF, ph.); Jam Bay 12 Jul (ME, DGo) thru 30 Jul (mob, ph.); 2 there 16 & 19 Jul.

**Black Vulture:** still scarce e of extreme w parts of the Region; many reps of 1-3 from the vic. of APP; Bethpage SP NASS 4 Aug (A. Roldos); several reps of 1-2 from the central SUFF Pine Barrens; 3 Mattituck SUFF 4 Jun (BBol).

**Turkey Vulture:** one CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 24 CICIP 18 Aug, large number for LI.

**Osprey:** 132 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** Far Rockaway, QUEE 20 Aug (D. Lichter).

**Northern Harrier:** away from ocean coast, where regular thru, most notable was one in a marsh In Northport, SUFF 23 Jun (K. Beatty); migrants widespread Aug.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** BCA 1 Jul; Centereach SUFF 10 Jul; Quogue WR SUFF 8 Aug (ESch); PBP 17 Aug (P. Horan); Southold SUFF 26 Aug (J. Rand); Tobay NASS 27 Aug (R. Haimes).

**Cooper's Hawk:** 4 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); widely reported all counties.

**Bald Eagle:** 3 CJC 11 Jun; widely reported in all counties.

**MISSISSIPPI KITE:** Brookfield P, RICH 5 JUN (ACi).

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** 3 reps RICH; Welwyn Pres, NASS 29, 31 Aug (A. Pichon); PBP 27-28 Aug (P. Horan, RAR); 5 widely spaced reps SUFF.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** Bloomingdale P, RICH 19 Jun (ACi); Parkchester Condos, BRON 24 Jun; HSP 7 Jul; arr Jam Bay 18 Aug; about 6 more reps after this.

**Red-tailed Hawk:** 8 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Barn Owl:** at least a few present at trad sites, sw LI.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** 9 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Great Horned Owl:** 3 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Barred Owl:** no reps away from Fishers I.

**Belted Kingfisher:** one CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 2 CRSP 11 Jun (on CJC; K&SF); pr Jones Pd, Manorville, SUFF thru, max 4 there.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** 54 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** Union Square P, NEWY 22 Aug (A. Deutsch), unus date.

**Downy Woodpecker:** 37 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Hairy Woodpecker:** 9 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Northern Flicker:** 31 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Pileated Woodpecker:** FP 26 Jun (J.

Loscalzo), only rep beyond RICH.

**American Kestrel:** reps concentrated in NYC until late Aug.

**Merlin:** Jam Bay 12 Jul (ME, DGo) and 4 dates thru 31 Jul (SSi, ph.); Seaside Wildlife Nature P, RICH 24 Jul (ACi); arr 13 Aug.

**Peregrine Falcon:** one CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); reported from all counties in Region.

**Monk Parakeet:** 4 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 30 GwC 20 Aug.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** 58 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Eastern Kingbird:** 28 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 390 CHP 24 Aug.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** CLP 1 Jun (C. Barron); sb arr PBP 12 Aug (RAR); aobout 13 reps thereafter, mostly west.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** 13 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** 2 nb reps thru 6 Jun; sb arr CP 12 Aug (N. O'Reilly); 9 more sb reps inc Northville SUFF 26 Aug (MLL), coming to water feature during drought.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** 3 CHP 1 Jun, multiple others nb in NYC parks thru 11 Jun; 2 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); West Village NEWY 22 Jun (T. Olsen); Brookhaven SP, SUFF 3 Jul; BCA 5 Jul (JGI); 2-4 APP 22 Jul-10 Aug, nested with 2 fledglings (NY); none sb.

**Alder Flycatcher:** one CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Willow Flycatcher:** 44 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Least Flycatcher:** none nb; arr 12 Aug.

**Eastern Phoebe:** 5 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), widely but sparsely distributed as a breeder in Region, absent from many areas.

**White-eyed Vireo:** 12 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** BNL 1-15 Jun (LN); Peconic Ri, Manorville SUFF 3 Jul (MMcB); TRCP 28 Aug (T. Mansfield); only reps.

**Warbling Vireo:** 40 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Red-eyed Vireo:** 81 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**American Crow:** 46 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *i.*); almost all reports in single digits, especially those with details indicating careful identification.

**Fish Crow:** 71 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*);

**Common Raven:** 3 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); widely reported from all 7 counties.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** 39 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), low.

**Tufted Titmouse:** 17 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), low.

**Horned Lark:** 5 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); Governor's I NEWY 2 Jul; juv Jam Bay 16 Aug (K. Toomey *et al.*); still breeds JBSP, St Charles Cem, SUFF, EPCAL, and several sites on South Fork.

**Bank Swallow:** one CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), rare on south shore outside of migration; max 325 Mattituck SUFF 9 Jul.

**Tree Swallow:** 150 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 500 Cutchogue fields SUFF 29-30 Aug (J. Rand).

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** 12 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 28 PBP 13 Jul.

**Purple Martin:** 51 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 47 Lemon Cr P RICH 9 Jul, breeding colony.

**Barn Swallow:** 247 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 960 FI Hawkwatch 12 Aug (M. Vedder).

**Cliff Swallow:** nesting Randall's I NEWY, Paerdegat Basin KING, PBP, and Alley Pd Environmental Center QUEE; arr RMSP 20 Jul (SSM).

**Cedar Waxwing:** 66 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** many throughout Region Jun-Jul; also widely rep in Aug, but in small numbers (max 8 GwC 26 Aug) and not

detected at outer coast migration vantages such as BPT and RMSP by season's end.

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** 7 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Brown Creeper:** 1 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** 27 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), continues low; max 17 BPT 13 Aug (ME, RyM).

**Carolina Wren:** 94 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**House Wren:** 46 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Sedge Wren:** not reported this season at FKP.

**Marsh Wren:** 24 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 30 RRM 3-4 Jul.

**Gray Catbird:** 488 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Brown Thrasher:** 4 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Northern Mockingbird:** 85 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**European Starling:** 407 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Eastern Bluebird:** 2 11 Jun (on CJC, K&SF), CRSP.

**Veery:** 3 CRSP 11 Jun (on CJC; K&SF); max 8 Wading River SW Atlas Block 3 Jul (MMcB).

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** 3 reps NYC parks thru 4 Jun; arr PP 24 Aug and GwC 25 Aug.

**Swainson's Thrush:** many reps NYC parks thru 5 Jun; sb arr CP 18 Aug, early, with add'l reps from CP, PP, and GwC; no reports east of NYC by season's end.

**Hermit Thrush:** territorial birds reliably reported at six sites in the SUFF Pine Barrens; Aug reports away from breeding habitat difficult to evaluate given identification challenges re Bicknell's, Swainson's Thrushes and subspecies of Veery with darkly spotted breasts.

**Wood Thrush:** sparsely but widely reported, mostly from mesic "mainland" and North Shore of LI sites (vs. coastal plain of s NASS and sw-sc SUFF).

**American Robin:** 371 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**House Sparrow:** 177 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**House Finch:** 28 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Purple Finch:** 2 CP 4 Jun (K Becker); no Aug reps, *intro*.

**European Goldfinch:** Tobay 1-10 Jun; many reps, up to 4 at a time, PP, GwC, and environs.

The consistency of reports from KING and the steady accrual of records from migration traps is completely unlike the pattern of occurrence expected via direct escape from captivity.

**American Goldfinch:** 73 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** status similar to Savannah, but fewer birds at fewer sites; St. Charles Cem 11 Jun (on CJC; MC); 11 Cutchogue farm fields 26 Jun (BBol, J. Rand).

**Lark Sparrow:** arr PBP 30 Jul (H. Clancy, ph.); early; 2 Watch Hill, FINS 12 Aug (DSw, ph.); CP 28-31 Aug (mob, ph.), unus loc; Jam Bay 28 Aug (T. Aversa); MPt 29 Aug (EMA, ph.).

**Chipping Sparrow:** 101 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Field Sparrow:** 9 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**White-throated Sparrow:** as usual, many reps through summer in NYC parks (max 10) but only four to the east, all SUFF: Caumsett SP 3 Jul (P. Shure, ph.), East Northport 2 Jun (V. Schiappa), South Setauket 12 Jun & 3 Jul (G. Klein), Northville 17 Jul, singing male (MLL); Aug reps, although numerous, restricted to the narrow band of urban traps extending nne to sse from Inwood Hill P NEWY through Randalls I and Manhattan I to GwC.

**Vesper Sparrow:** EPCAL 2 Jul (A. Lowe); Suffolk County Farm and Education Center 17 Aug (D. Ramrattan); possibly still breeds in small numbers in the Region.

**Seaside Sparrow:** 62 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*)

**Nelson's Sparrow:** MPB 1 Jun (HL); PlumbB 3 Jun (ME, T. Preston); TP 4 Jun (T. Moran); 2 Brookfield P, RICH 5 Jun (T. Preston); only reps.

**Saltmarsh Sparrow:** 40 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Savannah Sparrow:** local breeder in Region, breeding FKP, SCSP, Caumsett SP SUFF and St. Charles Cem (6 on CJC 11 Jun (MC)); more widely to the east, including Suffolk County Farm, EPCAL, and various agricultural sites on the East End, e.g., 14 Cutchogue farm fields 26 Jun (BBol, J. Rand).

**Song Sparrow:** 169 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Swamp Sparrow:** potential breeders in BRON and RICH but only 2 trad sites SUFF.

**Eastern Towhee:** 144 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** 2 PPds 11 Jun (N. Henderson).

**Bobolink:** Arshamomaque Pres SUFF 7 Jun (M.A. Zovko), only Jun rep; max 50 Suffolk County Farm 20 Aug (JRG).

**Eastern Meadowlark:** probable breeders restricted to Manorville-Calverton area SUFF, max 6.

**Orchard Oriole:** 4 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Baltimore Oriole:** 49 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), lowest count for second year in a row.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** 578 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** 26 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*), well below 7-yr avg 66.

**Common Grackle:** 341 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Boat-tailed Grackle:** 26 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*);

**Ovenbird:** 15 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*);

**Worm-eating Warbler:** Mt. Sinai, SUFF 10 Jun (S. Clarke); Fishers I, SUFF 15 Jun (J. Hart, D. Schlapper); rare breeder in SUFF; arr CP and Jam Bay 12 Aug; Northville SUFF 20 & 29 Aug (MLL), visiting water feature during drought.

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** Arshamomaque Pres, SUFF 4 Jul (JSep), possible breeder; arr 17 Jul CLP and SMSP (JGI), where scarce; 7 additional reps SUFF, where scarce.

**Northern Waterthrush:** 5 reps thru 4 Jun; GwC 25 Jun, unus date; Hempstead L SP NASS 18 Jul; max 23 BPt 13 Aug (ME, RyM).

**Golden-winged Warbler:** 2 CP 20 Aug, arr & max; also Sans Souci P, SUFF 21 Aug (V. Glasser); Southold, SUFF 28 Aug (MN *et al.*); CRSP 29 Aug (V. Pellegrino).

**Blue-winged Warbler:** 8 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 7 TRCP 20 Aug.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** 2 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 17 BPt 13 Aug (ME, RyM).

**Prothonotary Warbler:** CLP 11 Jun (H. Fischer).

**Tennessee Warbler:** RMSP 22 Jul (PJL, SSM); 11<sup>th</sup> St, KING 27 Jul (ME), both unus dates, *intro*; arr CP 14 Aug; max 4 Flax Pd, SUFF 24 Aug.

**Nashville Warbler:** arr West Hills CP, SUFF 13 Aug; only singles thru 31 Aug.

**Connecticut Warbler:** arr GwC 27 Aug (RyM, M. Silber), early.

**Mourning Warbler:** 5 reps thru 5 Jun, all NYC; arr CP 13 Aug.

**Common Yellowthroat:** 117 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); 49 Gardiners I, SUFF 26 Jun (T. Sturm); several sb counts 10-11.

**Hooded Warbler:** no hint of potential breeders; arr CP 12 Aug.

**American Redstart:** 7 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); max 33 BPt 13 Aug (ME, RyM).

**Cape May Warbler:** arr GwC 12 Aug; max 3 CHP 26 Aug.

**Northern Parula:** many reps through Jun, mostly stragglers in western parks; 1 CRSPP 11 Jun (on CJC; K&SF), singing male; Grace Estate, SUFF 8 Jun (S. Biasetti), singing male; 3 Fresh Pd, Mon 3 Jul (AnW), two singing males; *intro.*; sb arr 12 Aug; max 3 GwC 28 Aug and APP 31 Aug.

**Magnolia Warbler:** several thru 2 Jun; Bryant P NEWY 22 Jun (RyM), unus date; arr CP, PP, Jam Bay 13 Aug; max 5 CP 28 Aug.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** CP 2 Jun; Tompkins Square P NEWY 28 Aug; only reps.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** last nb 2 Jun; arr Calvert Vaux P KING 12 Aug, only singles thru 31 Aug.

**Yellow Warbler:** 278 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** a few Jun reps in NYC were stragglers, but a male singing in suitable habitat at Arshamomaque Pres, SUFF 10 Jun (K. Klein, T. Mansfield) recalled the not-so-long-ago times when the species nested regularly on the North Shore and East End of LI.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** widely rep thru 5 Jun, with several lingering, e.g., CP 17 Jun (MBK) and Cunningham P, QUEE 30 Jun (C. Castillo); sb arr PP 25 Aug (L. Ewing).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** about 5 through 5 Jun, one singing male lingering Sunset P, KING thru 15 Jun (N. Dawson); arr 19 Aug; max 3 CP and CICP 28 Aug.

**Palm Warbler:** none reported.

**Pine Warbler:** 17 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*);

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 2 PP 10 Jun (F. Wickham), late; Lido Beach, NASS 2 Aug (D. Salas), unus date; Wolfe's Pd P RICH 27 Aug (ACi); at least 8 reps 18-31 Aug, *intro.*

**Yellow-throated Warbler:** 1 CJC (PJL *et al.*), BCA; pr BCA 19 Jun (EMa).

**Prairie Warbler:** 9 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** several reps thru 2 Jun; male singing GwC 17 Jun (K. O'Hearn), unus date; arr 13 Aug.

**Canada Warbler:** last nb GwC 3 Jun; arr GwC, PP, CP, NY Bot Garden 12 Aug; max 6 CP 13 Aug.

**Wilson's Warbler:** none in Jun; Northville SUFF 17 Jul (MLL), unusual date; arr CP and Brooklyn Bridge P, KING 26 Aug.

**Summer Tanager:** Riverside P, NEWY 24-25 Jun (K. Fung); GwC 25 Jun (ph); PPDs thru 5 Jul, on terr.; only reps.

**Scarlet Tanager:** 1 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); no notable counts of migrants by end of Aug.

**Northern Cardinal:** 129 CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** potential breeders mostly on or near the North Shore of QUEE, NASS, and SUFF; few sb records by season's end, e.g., Sayville Marina, SUFF 25 Aug (KJ).

**Blue Grosbeak:** GwC 1 Jun, from May; breeders several RICH sites (max 5 FKP 10 Jul), Manhasset (potential breeding site), and at least six SUFF sites, more than last year; easternmost South Fork Natural History Museum, Bridgehampton SUFF 11 & 21 Jun.

**Indigo Bunting:** missed CJC 11 Jun (PJL *et al.*); breeders concentrated in RICH (max 15 FKP 10 Jul) and in of moraine on LI; scattered non-breeders along ocean coast.; almost completely absent within the urbanized swath of KING, QUEE, NASS and SUFF, south of the LI Expressway.

**Dickcissel:** arr East Moriches, SUFF 30 Jul (J. Santos) and MPB 1 Aug (HL), early, like last year; Gov I NEWY 10 Aug (DGo); BPt 12 Aug (DGo *et al.*); Cedar Beach, Babylon SUFF 13 Aug (MMcB); Davis P, FINS 15 Aug (DSw); Lemon Cr Pier, RICH 4 Aug (ACi); JBSP 24 Aug (F. Rodriguez); Midland Beach, RICH 28 Aug (CH); all reps.





## REPORTING YOUR OBSERVATIONS

Observers are strongly encouraged to report their findings directly to the Regional Editors, to help identify significant trends. Summary reports of observations; impressions of notable patterns in the weather, timing of migration, unusual scarcity or abundance of particular species, etc.; and notable individual records are highly valued. For maximum usefulness, send in reports no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the end of each season:

15 March, 15 June, 15 September, and 15 December.

## STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

Regional rarities appear in BOLD; county names are shortened to their first four letters and appear in UPPER CASE letters; months are shortened to their first three letters. In species accounts: number of individuals omitted implies that one individual was reported; ! – details seen by Regional Editor; ad – adult; alt – alternate plumage; arr – arrival or first of season; BBS – Breeding Bird Survey; BOTS – bird of the season; CBC – Christmas Bird Count; Co – County; I – Island; imm – immature; intro – see introduction to report; juv – juvenile; L – Lake; max – maximum; mob – multiple observers; Mt – Mountain; NYSDEC – New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; NWR – National Wildlife Refuge; NYSARC – report to New York State Avian Records Committee; P – park; Pd – Pond; ph – photographed; Pres – Preserve; Pt – Point; Res – Reservoir; Ri – River; SP – State Park; spm – specimen; subad – subadult; T – Town of; thru – throughout period; Twn – township; WMA – Wildlife Management Area; y – young.

## BREEDING BIRD ATLAS CODES

These codes are listed in ascending order to highest breeding codes.

**POSSIBLE:** H – in appropriate habitat; S – singing bird.

**PROBABLE:** S7 – singing male present 7+ days; M – multiple (7+) singing males; P – pair in suitable habitat; T – territorial defense; C – courtship, display, or copulation; N – visiting probable nest site; A – agitated behavior; B – woodpecker/wren nest building.

**CONFIRMED:** PE – physiological evidence; CN – carrying nesting material; NB – nest building; DD – distraction display; UN – used nest; ON – occupied nest; FL – recently fledged and precocial young; CF – carrying food; FY – feeding young; FS – carrying fecal sac; NE nest with eggs; NY – nest with young.

## REPORTING REGIONS

Regional boundaries coincide with county lines, except at:

Region 1-Region 2 in Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming Counties:

the boundary is NY Route 98 from Pt. Breeze to Batavia; NY Route 63 from Batavia to Pavilion, and NY Route 19 from Pavilion to the Allegany County line.

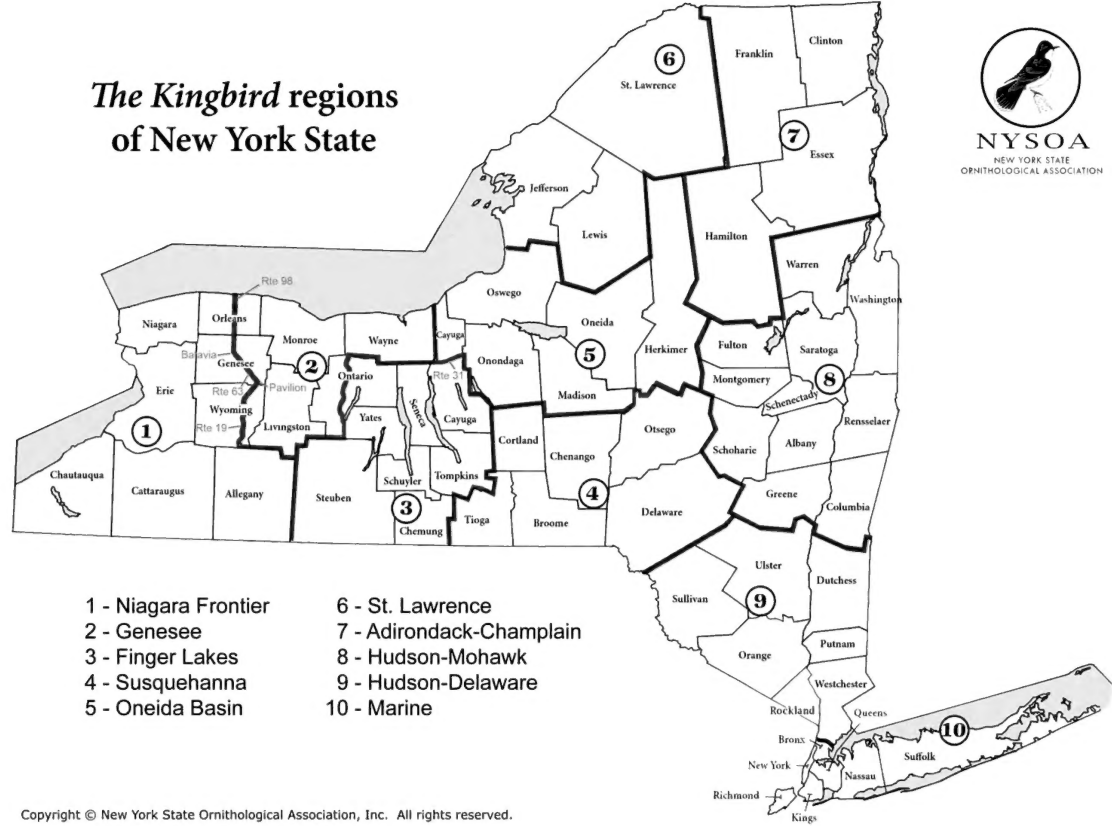
Region 2-Region 3 in Ontario County:

the boundary is Mud Creek to NY Route 64, NY Route 64 from Bristol Center to S. Bristol Springs, and Route 21 from S. Bristol Springs to the Yates County line.

Region 3-Region 5 in Cayuga County:

the boundary is NY Route 31.

## *The Kingbird* regions of New York State



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**Editor of *The Kingbird***

Shaibal S. Mitra—Biology Dept., College of Staten Island  
2800 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10314—shaibal.mitra@csi.cuny.edu

**Editor of *New York Birders***

Dan Miller—newsletter1@nybirds.org

***Appointed Committees***

**Archives:**

Linda Clark Benedict—lbenedict48@gmail.com

**Awards:**

Jerry Thurn, Chair—awards1@nybirds.org

**Bylaws:**

Robert Spahn, Chair—rspahn@prodigy.net

**Conservation:**

Andrew Mason, Chair—AndyMason@earthling.net

**Finance:**

Andrew Mason, Chair—AndyMason@earthling.net

**New York State Avian Records:**

Willie D'Anna, Chair—nysarc44@nybirds.org

***Send reports to:***

Gary Chapin, Secretary for NYSARC  
125 Pine Springs Drive, Ticonderoga, NY 12883; nysarc44@nybirds.org

**New York State Young Birders Club:**

Rosanne Vinson, Chair—bigbird@nysyoungbirders.org

**Publications:**

Vacant

**Marketing and Publicity:**

Brian Dugan—bldtraveler14871@yahoo.com

**Research:**

Greg Lawrence, Chair—research1@nybirds.org

**Waterfowl Count:**

William Ostrander—browncreeper9@gmail.com

**Website and Information Services:**

Carena Pooth—carena@prodigy.net

***Elected Committees***

**Nominating:**

Joan Collins (Chair), Bob Adamo, Charlie Scheim

**Auditing:**

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